

TOMORROW

After M.A.S.H. in Korea, the return of the Vietnam war to the television screen; the trials and tribulations of being a successful step-parent; for the third time in 22 years, Turkey's generals are getting ready to return to barracks. As the countdown to the elections begins, a Special Report looks at the Turkey the military will hand back to the next civilian government.

Today



Mr Stancu Papusoi, the Romanian whose deportation on March 16 prompted strong criticism of the Home Office. The House of Lords will debate his case tonight. (Photograph: Nicholas Brown) Unresolved questions, page 12

Sterling falls to new low

The pound recovered slightly in late trading but still closed at a record low of \$1.4508, a fall of 0.5 points from Friday. Further falls against the dollar are widely expected in the City. Against other currencies, the pound performed better, with its trade-weighted average steady at 78.1

For MEPs in chase for seats

Conservative members of the European Parliament are all in the running for selection in prospective constituencies for Westminster constituencies, even though membership of the European Parliament has, in general, proved a handicap for aspiring Tory MPs

New president

Professor Raymond Hoffenberg, a former Cape Town doctor, barred from South Africa on political grounds in 1968, was elected president of the Royal College of Physicians of England last night.

Golden touch

Eugene Evans, aged 16, who left school last year, expects to receive £35,000 this year as a computer programme designer with a firm in Liverpool. Page 3

Travel rush

French tourist offices and exchange bureaux have been besieged by travellers trying to beat the exchange controls announced by the Government as part of its austerity package

Fear for girls

West Bank doctors believe the Arab schoolgirls hit by a mysterious disease inhaled toxic gas. They are particularly concerned that the symptoms are recurring

Carson banned

White Carson, the royal jockey, was banned from riding for six days after being found guilty of reckless riding at Ayr

Watson's prize

John Watson of Northern Ireland created formula one history as he drove his Marlboro McLaren to victory in the Long Beach Grand Prix

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Leading articles: Future of football: CBI and recession; Labour NEC and manifesto Features, pages 10-12
Spectrum discusses the future of Aintree and the Grand National and Suzy Menkes looks at fashions to suit the 14-year-old - and her parents' Papusoi, the must questions Lord Elton, must answer: Roger Scruton demands a second opinion: the sand castle church
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Lieutenant-General Sir Terence Airey, Miss Rowena Cade

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BL walkout fuels fears of rising union militancy

By Clifford Webb and Barrie Clement

Three thousand car workers at BL's Cowley assembly plant, Oxford, voted overwhelmingly yesterday to take immediate strike action over the withdrawal of "washing up" time.

There is growing concern in Government and motor industry circles that the strike, which stopped production of BL's new Maestro car, is further evidence of the growing militancy which some union leaders warned would occur when car sales improved and factories came under pressure to increase output.

Since the beginning of the year new car registrations have increased by 22 per cent. Some industry experts are already forecasting that 1983 will see record sales, exceeding the 1,700,000 cars sold in 1979.

Faced with this level of buoyancy BL, Ford and Vauxhall are all attempting to step up production. This is being done mainly by introducing more efficient working practices and cutting out time-wasting such as the 10-minute "washing up" period.

By running production lines to the end of each shift, saving six minutes each on day and night shifts, Austin-Rover management hope to increase weekly output by 10,000 cars to 4,100. During the past 10 years "washing up" time has been successfully abolished at all Austin-Rover factories except Cowley.

It has never been part of any official agreement but has

operated for so long that most Cowley workers believe it has become established by "custom and practice".

The abrasive years of Sir Michael Edwards's chairmanship saw BL's work force fall from 190,000 to less than 100,000, and factory closures came thick and fast. Militant shop stewards saw their power base destroyed.

Now Austin-Rover is recruiting again at its two main car plants, Cowley and Longbridge. Management is prepared to increase manning levels, for the first time since the early 1970s.

That is the sign the militants have been waiting for. Almost overnight it has strengthened their hand in dealing with management.

The need to settle the strike quickly and take advantage of Ford's troubles is clearly in the mind of Mr Harold Musgrove, Austin-Rover's chairman. He now has the models to do it.

Since it was launched on March 1, 6,200 Maestros have been sold, giving it the best first month's sales of any new car in Britain. Its stablemate, the Metro, is the best selling British car, taking more than 10 per cent of the market.

Production of the Metro and the Mini is being increased at Longbridge by a total of 500 a week, and 100 new workers are being recruited.

But last night a colleague of Mr Musgrove's said: "Those who suggest that the temptation to settle quickly will lead to a

compromise forget that Harold was at the sharp end of the battle to restore discipline to the shop floor."

"He knows perhaps better than anyone else what a terrible legacy he inherited from weak management. What is more, he has demonstrated to the ordinary worker that by remaining at his bench instead of walking out on every two-bit issue he can double his pay over the year as a whole, taking into account bonus payments of up to £30 a week."

Support for the strike surprised the workers' leaders as well as the management.

Mr Douglas Hobbs, convenor for the Amalgamated Engineering Workers' Union, said: "In all my 23 years here I have never before seen such a decisive vote for a strike."

Union leaders emphasized that the walkout was not only about the loss of washing-up time. Mr Robert Fryer, senior shop steward of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said the high vote was a sign that workers were fed up with the way they had been treated in recent months.

Union officials accuse BL of using "autocratic and heavy-handed tactics" in their efforts to boost production.

Mr Brian Fox, managing director for Austin Rover, said: "All we ask is that our workers honour their contracts and stick to agreements. There is no agreement that they stop work early."

Whistler paintings stolen from church

By Christopher Warman

Arts Correspondent

Brompton Oratory, in London, one of the Roman Catholic Church's leading cultural centres in Britain, was robbed at the weekend of some of its priceless treasures.

The main loss was a triptych by Rex Whistler, painted on canvas, and representing the English martyrs Sir Thomas More and John Fisher, and other sixteenth-century martyrs. Father Michael Napier, of the Oratory, said yesterday that the work had been commissioned for the altar in St Wilfrid's Chapel in 1938 and was unusual because it was Whistler's only religious work.

"I suppose it is worth several thousands of pounds, but it is well known and therefore difficult to put a price on because it is unsalable", he said.



Sir Thomas More, on the Whistler triptych

The thieves also took one of a pair of sixteenth-century wooden panels, depicting "The presentation in the Temple" from the Chapel of St Patrick. They left behind the second panel, which depicted "The Circumcision".

The panels, attributed to the Flemish artist Frans Floris (1517-1570) measure about 6ft by 2 ft and are very heavy. "It seems that the thieves had so much difficulty detaching the first panel that they had no time to take the other", Father Napier said.

The three canvas panels of the Whistler triptych were about 4ft high, with the side panels - one depicting Sir Thomas More and the other John Fisher - 1 ft wide and the central panel 2 ft wide.

The thieves are thought to have entered the church before it was locked up on Saturday. An unbolting door found on Sunday morning indicated their escape route. Police said last night that they were investigating the theft.

Argentine relatives may visit Falklands

By David Cross

The British Government last night overcame its doubts and agreed in principle to let a group of relatives of Argentine soldiers who died during last year's war in the Falklands visit their graves.

But the Foreign Office said in a statement that the visit would go ahead only under certain conditions. These included a stipulation that the visit would have to be entirely humanitarian in nature and organized and supervised entirely by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The statement said that the British Government's agreement in principle had already been transmitted to the ICRC and discussions were already in train about details of a possible trip. The Government also reiterated its earlier offer to return the bodies of their servicemen at present buried on the Falklands.

The British first heard of Argentine plans to request a visit for relatives of their war casualties in February. The idea was not particularly palatable because the request for a visit came from an organization calling itself the Centre of Volunteers for the Falkland Islands. The group was formed by civilians who volunteered to fight during the conflict in the south Atlantic.

Since British forces recaptured the islands last year the group has concentrated on propaganda and the British have clearly been worried that this was the prime motive behind the request for a visit to the Falkland Islands. This explains why the British are now insisting on strict conditions for the visit.

According to Senor Osvaldo Destefanis, the president of the group, at least 40 relatives have expressed interest in going to the Falklands. There are believed to be more than 250 Argentine soldiers buried on the islands. He has insisted that his motive is purely humanitarian.

● BUENOS AIRES. - Yesterday's 24-hour general strike in the junta's economic policies succeeded in paralysing the country despite being declared illegal at the last moment, Andrew Thompson writes.

The strike was called by the two wings of the organised labour movement and supported by the Transport Workers Union which controls bus and underground services in Buenos Aires.

First reports indicated that stoppages were even more effective than during the general strike of December 6 last year. Then, about 80 per cent of the country's economic activities were halted.

Yesterday there was no public transport in Buenos Aires and most shops and offices remained closed. Essential services operated with skeleton staffing.

Calvi counsel reveals \$20m bank withdrawal

Signor Roberto Calvi, the Italian banker found hanging from scaffolding under Blackfriars Bridge in London, planned to telephone his daughter for some 12 hours after he died, the High Court was told in London yesterday.

That was part of fresh evidence put before three judges by counsel for the Calvi family, which claims he was murdered and seeks to quash a majority verdict at an inquest last July.

Mr George Carmen, QC, for the family, said part of the new evidence concerned financial dealings by Signor Flavio Carboni, a business associate, who has told police in Switzerland that a few weeks after



Sydney welcome: The Royal couple at the hall

Sydney falls in love with Princess

Sydney fell in love yesterday with the Princess of Wales. The normally cynical people of this most sophisticated of Australian cities went wild over the Princess and mobbed her from one side of the town to the other, Granville Forbes, the Press Association's Court correspondent, wrote from Sydney.

From the moment the Princess stepped from the Royal Australian Air Force aircraft at Sydney airport, she received the sort of welcome seen only once in a lifetime.

Massive crowds lined the route as she made the slowest of Royal progresses in an open maroon Rolls-Royce to the Sydney Opera House.

Men wearing traditional shorts and carrying cans of beer rushed out to greet her as she passed. Their wives and children cheered themselves hoarse and waved a sea of Australian and British flags.

Excitement at the Opera House had built up since dawn as whole families camped out in scorching sunshine to await her arrival.

Newspapers were turned into makeshift sun hats and parasols were put up against the glare as children produced hand-drawn placards which pleaded: "Please come and speak to us."

The mood was electric by the time the Royal motorcade appeared. Fire ships sent fountains of spray hurtling into Sydney harbour.

But this by no means a one-sided love affair. The Princess is growing in confidence in the warm light of Australian approval.

Prince Charles, answering the welcoming address, used words like "heartwarming", "overwhelming" and "touched" as he said how delighted he was to introduce his wife and son to Australia - his "old and valued friend". He had first set foot in Australia 17 years ago as a

Continued on back page, col 3

Six Polish refugees in hiding

By David Hewson

Six Polish refugees are now in hiding in Britain and a further 21 have applied for permission to stay in the country after escaping from Eastern Europe.

The defection of the Poles from a cruise ship which docked at Tilbury on March 15 was not an impulsive event but was planned well in advance, according to Polish immigrant sources last night. The vessel, the Stefan Batory, had not advertised its pleasure cruise to Britain in Polish papers, but word of the trip had leaked out from crew members.

Many of those on the ship had sold all their possessions, bought return tickets for the voyage and, according to one source, bribed Polish immigration officials to enable them

to avoid passport controls when leaving the country.

After the ship reached Tilbury, about 50 Poles left intending to seek asylum, but a number returned because they were unable to make contact with relatives and friends living in Britain. All the Poles were unaware that, six days before they arrived, the Home Office had tightened immigration rules which had offered those fleeing the Jaruzelski regime special leave to stay in the country for a year.

When some of them did make contact with relatives in Britain and heard the stricter rules, six told their fellow colleagues that they intended to avoid immigration officials altogether.

"They hope they can manage to stay underground for long enough, until there is some form of amnesty for immigrants," one Polish welfare worker said. "They have had some help from Polish people living here as far as money is concerned, but they wouldn't dream of staying with Polish friends. They would be too frightened; these people are very paranoid."

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that seven refugees from the ship had asked for political asylum. 13 had asked for leave to remain temporarily to seek permission to move to other countries, and one had applied for leave to stay to marry an Iraqi citizen resident in Britain. Four refugees

Continued on back page, col 1

Real wages have risen says Howe

By Frances Williams

Economics Correspondent

The average worker's real living standards have risen by 5.5 per cent since the Conservative took office, compared with a slight fall under Labour, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, claimed yesterday.

The figures refer to the rise in after-tax earnings, adjusted for inflation, by a married man with two children on the average wage between 1978-79 and 1982-84.

The Chancellor gave them to an all-party Commons Select Committee on the Treasury when he spoke about the Budget. But he warned MPs that, despite signs of economic recovery, unemployment would remain high for the foreseeable future.

He said it was possible that, with favourable developments in the world economy, unemployment might begin to fall, rather than remain constant, as the Government's public spending plans assure. But he said: "No one believes that a fall in unemployment is likely to take place other than on a very slow timescale."

Questioned on exchange rate policy - on a day when the pound sank to another record low against the dollar - Sir Geoffrey said the policy remained unchanged.

There was no exchange rate objective but the government was willing to intervene to check sharp movements in exchange rate and smooth fluctuations.

He repeated his Budget claim that the latest movement in sterling was not due to laxity in fiscal and monetary policy, and rejected as ineffective a suggestion that the authorities intervene heavily to defend a particular rate.

Sterling slumps, page 19

Joan of Arc 'survived stake'

Paris (AFP) - Joan of Arc, patron saint of France, was not burnt at the stake at the age of 19 by the English 500 years ago, but was killed in battle when she was 44, according to a French historian here yesterday.

Professor Pierre de Sermeise came to his startling conclusions after six years of research on medieval documents in the archives of the Bibliothèque Nationale (National Library).

The accepted version of the story of Joan, the Maid of Orleans, was that she was burnt as a heretic in Rouen, northern

France, in May 1431. She was just 19.

But Professor de Sermeise, in his book *Joan d'Arc et la Mandragore* published yesterday lists seven points contradicting history's accepted version.

He says she was actually born in Domremy in 1407, and not the established date of 1412, and was in fact the illegitimate daughter of Louis d'Orleans and Isabel de Bavière which made her the sister of King Charles VII. This explains her easy access to the king when she was

supposedly just a "poor peasant girl".

He says she did not die at the stake - instead a witch replaced her and was burnt in her place - but was killed in battle in 1451, says the professor.

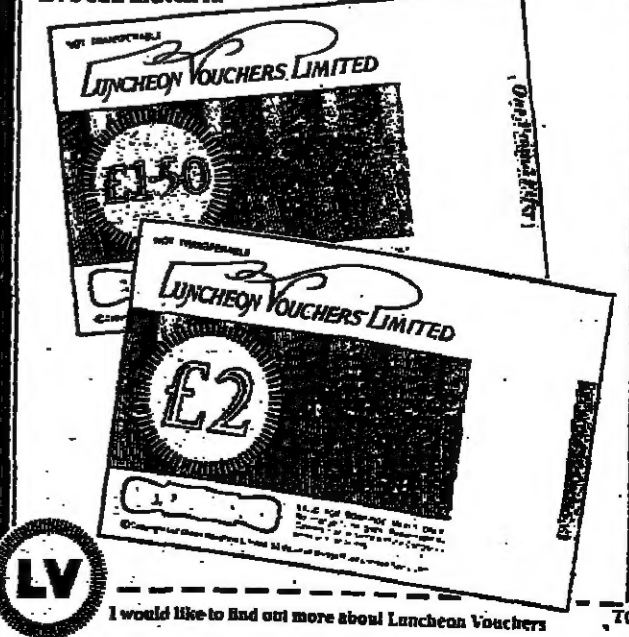
Professor de Sermeise claimed to have discovered eyewitness accounts from people who saw her alive in 1436.

Later Joan of Arc married a French knight, Robert des Armoirs of Lorraine, in 1436 - when she was 29 - but the marriage was never consummated, he said.

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Five Tory MEPs still in race for Commons seats

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Son says Calvi was on point of 'naming names' at time of death

The son of Roberto Calvi, the Italian banker, whose body was found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge, London, last June, said yesterday that his father had been about to "name names" when he died.

In a sworn statement read to three judges, Signor Carlo Calvi described how his father, who was closely linked with the Vatican Bank, was convicted by an Italian court in 1981 of illegally exporting \$20m (£13.3m) from the country and sentenced to four years imprisonment.

Signor Calvi, former president of Banco Ambrosiano, Italy's biggest private bank, had refused to tell who had received the money. But, his son said he had been about to appeal against both conviction and sentence when he arrived in London last June.

At the appeal it would have been essential for him to name the recipients of the \$20m and the part which had been played in the whole affair by the Banco Ambrosiano.

Inquest on Signor Calvi was rushed. "Justice that is rushed is justice denied," he said.

Mr Carman said that Signora Clara Calvi, the widow, and her son and daughter had travelled from the United States to be in court. "The suicide verdict constitutes for them, as Catholics, a grave moral stigma, and they entertain the belief that he met his death at the hands of others."

He described how, when Signor Calvi's body was found, his clothing had been weighted with 11 or 12 lb of bricks. He was dressed in an ordinary suit and shoes, and there was no trace in the body of alcohol or drugs of any significance.

Signor Calvi arrived in London by chartered private aircraft on June 15 last year. Travelling with him was Signor Silvano Vittor, a small-time smuggler whose ostensible role was that of bodyguard, Mr Carman said.

"He had been procured by

Signor Flavio Carboni, an associate of the banker, because Signor Calvi was in fear of his life."

Signor Carboni arrived in London before Signor Calvi's death. He and the bodyguard were the last men to see the banker alive, and they both "expeditiously" fled the country after his death, Mr Carman said.

Signor Vittor had told Italian police that he spent an anxious time waiting in the hotel room he shared with Signor Calvi on the night of the death, but had still taken a plane to Austria from Heathrow airport the next morning.

The movements of Signor Carboni were to say the least bizarre, Mr Carman said. The day after the death he left the country by a circuitous route involving a flight from Gatwick to Scotland, and then a flight by private aircraft to the Continent. Neither man contacted the British police before departure. Both, certainly Carboni, were fugitives from justice, he said.

Statements obtained from Signor Carboni by Swiss police showed that, after Signor Calvi's death, he had withdrawn from various Swiss bank accounts sums in the region of \$20m. "These sums were given, or caused to be given, to him by Signor Calvi, but he refused to disclose the ultimate recipients of the major proportion of that considerable sum," Mr Carman said.

Mr Carman said Signor Calvi had never given any indication that he ever intended or contemplated taking his own life.

The hearing continues today



Signor Calvi: Believed his life was in danger.



Smart 16 and worth £35,000 a year

Eugene Evans expects to receive £35,000 this year as a computer programme designer with a small computer software company in Liverpool. He would be an unremarkable high-flying professional were he not aged only 16.

Other executives of his calibre and earning power might own a Jaguar and a detached bungalow in half an acre, and take an annual holiday in Barbados.

But when you are 16, you have to be fetched by taxi for work every day, because you

are too young to drive, and you have to hand over £20 a week housekeeping money to your mother.

A year ago, he was sitting behind a school desk studying for six A levels and two CSEs; computer studies was not even on the curriculum.

He is entirely self-taught, having read books on computers beneath the bedclothes from the age of 12, and has made himself an expert in writing games of the Star Wars variety, said to be one of

the most difficult tasks in computer software.

He designed his first programme, "Space Panic", last year. Shortly afterwards, the company Image Software was launched and invited him to become an employee. His basic salary is £17,000, and he makes as much again in bonuses, bringing work home at night.

His earnings this year are likely to be seven times those of his father, a bus driver in Liverpool. Far from being jealous, his father is delighted.

Mark claim disputed

A senior coastguard rejected a suggestion yesterday that one of two unidentified vessels picked up on a radar plot when the Union Star was in difficulties could have been the coaster Mark, which disappeared at about the same time.

At the public inquiry in Penzance into the loss of the Penlee lifeboat when it went to the aid of the Union Star, it was disclosed that there had been speculation that wreckage found on the coast eight days later could have been from the Mark.

1,000 are charged in vice drive

A new police drive against vice in the King's Cross area of central London has led to 1,000 charges in 10 weeks. Most of the charges have led to convictions.

Chief Insp William Nelson, head of the unit involved, said yesterday that most of the charges were for loitering for prostitution, and that prostitution was being discouraged by a "consistent uniformed police presence". Plain-clothes officers were also being deployed against pimps and brothels.

Youths jailed for contempt

Two prosecution witnesses who failed to appear at the trial of two youths accused of attacking a community policeman were jailed for 28 days yesterday for contempt of court.

Bristol Crown Court judge was satisfied that both Devon Sawyers, aged 18, and Lennox Cornwall, aged 19, had deliberately avoided being present at the trial of two youths who were jailed by Gloucester Crown Court last week for a "vicious and cowardly" attack on Police Constable Ian Bennett.

Rams' fling costs £600

Mr Melville Waters, a farmer of Nash, Gwent, was ordered at Newport County Court yesterday to pay £600 damages and costs, after being sued by Mr Graham Attewell, also of Nash for damages of £1,100.

Mr Attewell had alleged that two of Mr Waters's rams got among his flock of pure bred Suffolk ewes and served 24 of them on the evening of August 20, 1981. Of the 37 lambs born,

Legal fight by 'magic mushroom' grower

By Tony Samuels

About 20 varieties of "magic mushrooms" grow on Hampstead Heath, London, although only one species of the hallucinogenic mushrooms is known to have been eaten for recreational purposes, Snarebrook Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Kelvin Curtis, aged 31, who set up a laboratory at home to develop a "superabundant" strain of "magic mushrooms", is charged with producing, or attempting to produce, a product containing a controlled drug.

According to uncontested police testimony, Mr Curtis, who was arrested last May 3 at his home in Moray Road, north London, said: "They are not toadstools, they are sacred, magic mushrooms. It's not an offence if the mushrooms are fresh."

Dr Geoffrey Maxwell-Rowe, a senior forensic scientist with the Metropolitan Police, said that the species of mushrooms he had identified, psilocybe cubensis, was unlikely to be among those growing on Hampstead Heath as it favoured tropical and subtropical habitats, although he could not exclude the possibility.

The two charges that Mr Curtis faces are seen as something of a test case. Possession of living magic mushrooms has not been established as automatically an offence under existing drug laws.

Mr James Crespi, for the prosecution, said Mr Curtis had told police that he produced mushrooms for his own pleasure. The prosecution accepted that "there was no intention to sell."

Det Constable Duncan Fenwick told the court that Mr Curtis's were grown from spores that he had ordered three years ago from an advertisement in an American magazine, High Times. The spores "can be dormant for hundreds of years and can even travel through outer space," Mr Curtis had said, adding that he ate them "because they enlightened the mind."

Mr Curtis said he had developed his germination technique in part from a book, The Mushroom Growers Guide, bought at the Compendium Bookshop in Camden Town, north London.

The hearing continues today.

Prison for cocaine smugglers

Three "reluctant recruits" to a cocaine-smuggling syndicate, one of whom was said to be at risk from "determined men", were sentenced at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

They were arrested after a big Customs investigation, code-named Operation Snowball, into the smuggling through Heathrow of suitcases full of cocaine, which arrived on flights from South America, principally Peru, in September, 1980, and February the following year.

Edward Herron, aged 31, a minicab driver of Bathurst Gardens, Kensal Rise, north-west London, and James Hyatt, aged 29, a musician of Avenue Road, Southgate, north London, admitted acting as couriers.

Peter Whitehead, aged 32, a company director, of St Mark's Road, North Kensington, admitted possessing and supplying cocaine.

Herron was jailed for two years, with six months of it suspended. Hyatt, and Whitehead were each sentenced to three years in prison.

Herron gave evidence for the Crown in a trial which ended at the court last week. When four men were acquitted.

Mr Peter Beaumont, for the prosecution, said that Herron was responsible for smuggling six kilos of high quality cocaine, and Hyatt 10 kilos. They had been promised £1,000 each for their help. The total London street value of the drugs was an excess of £2,400,000. Whitehead was arrested in possession of just under half a kilo, which he intended to distribute.

Mr Derek Iman, defending Hyatt, said his client had been tempted by the offer of easy money when he was in desperate financial trouble.

Mr Graham Laughland, QC, for Herron, said that his client had broken bail in June last year after threats of violence towards him and his girlfriend when he indicated that he was willing to help the prosecution. After Herron's arrest on New Year's Eve, he had given evidence and was prepared to do so at any future trial.

"He has been and continues to be under the threat of very determined men. Other persons involved are unlikely to be brought to justice. This man [Herron] has put himself in greater peril and further dangers."

Judge West-Russell said: "Words fail me when I hear of young people taking advantage of gullible old people."

Howard, of Subella Court, Mostyn Grove, Bow, North-east London, admitted 24 burglaries which netted more than £11,000 in cash, and £800 in silver. The thefts were all from the homes of elderly people, mainly on council estates in the East End of London between last September and December.

Georgiou, of Andaman House, Duckett Road, Stepney, East London, admitted nine burglaries.

Mr Nutter said both men were bored and unemployed.

Roger Ooshman, aged 19 of Burley House, Bromley Street, Stepney, who admitted four charges of burglary, was remanded in custody for reports.

Boost for theatre fund

By Christopher Warner Arts Correspondent

The Government yesterday gave official approval to the commercial theatre with the announcement of a special grant of £125,000 to the Theatre Investment Fund.

Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, speaking from the stage of the Duke of York's Theatre in St Martin's Lane in the West End, said the grant represented a gesture of confidence in the future of the commercial theatre and a positive way the Government could recognize its importance as a great national asset and a tremendous tourist draw.

In the past, government help has been confined to the subsidized theatre, and this first grant to the commercial theatre has delighted the Society of West End Theatre, which represents more than 40 commercial and subsidized theatres. At the same time, the Arts Council announced a grant of £62,300 to the fund,

with the possibility of a further £62,300 in the next three years.

The Society of West End Theatre has pledged to add to the total but it has yet to agree on its contribution. The object is to bring the fund, which was started nearly 10 years ago, up to £500,000 to provide help for young playwrights and young producers in establishing themselves in the theatre.

The fund was set up with a grant of £100,000 from the Arts Council with £150,000 from private sources. Lord Goodman, chairman of the fund, said yesterday that it had invested about £350,000 in more than 110 shows, and he looked forward to better times for the theatre.

"It would be very unwise to contemplate the closure of any West End theatre. I believe we have about the right number of theatres at the moment and keeping them going is of vital importance."

Mr Fitzgerald said old people, who were sometimes frightened into believing their electricity would be cut off, were distracted by being asked to assist in the "test". The two "men" would then rummage through their home and steal cash and valuables.

The oldest victim to lose her savings, a widow aged 89, whose identity was not disclosed, told the police that she had delayed reporting the theft because she was so ashamed of what had happened.

Jailing Howard, for six years and Georgiou for five years,

Bogus officials robbed old people

Two men who posed as council workmen and electricity board officials to rob old people of their savings were jailed for a total of 11 years by Southwark Crown Court yesterday.

The behaviour of Stanley Howard, aged 22, and Harris Georgiou, aged 25, was described as despicable and dastardly by Mr Julian Nutter, for the defence.

One of their victims was Mr Frank Wakeford, aged 85, a disabled "First World War" veteran, of Sinner Road, Walthamstow, north-east London. His savings of more than £3,000 and war medals were taken from a box under his bed.

Mr Nutter said: "It is difficult to find words to describe someone who goes into the home of an elderly cripple who has risked his life in the war and to steal his medals."

Mr Wakeford was shown a bogus identity card and told by the man on the doorstep that he was an engineer from the electricity board, Mr Richard Fitzgerald, for the prosecution said.

Mr Fitzgerald said old people, who were sometimes frightened into believing their electricity would be cut off, were distracted by being asked to assist in the "test". The two "men" would then rummage through their home and steal cash and valuables.

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PARLIAMENT March 28 1983

Hatchet men come cheaper than this

NCB CHAIRMAN

Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman of the British Steel Corporation, is to be the next chairman of the National Coal Board. Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, announced in a statement in the Commons. A fee of £2,500,000 is to be paid to Lazard Freres as compensation for the loss of Mr MacGregor's services.

The Opposition spokesman described the appointment as a "coup". Mr Lawson said: "When I appointed Mr Norman Siddall as chairman of the National Coal Board last year, he made it clear to me that, regrettably, his health would not permit him more than a one year term. Strictly speaking, that year comes to an end on July 3, but Mr Siddall has kindly agreed to stay on until the end of August. He has already proved to be an outstanding chairman of the coal board, as I am sure is widely recognised on all sides of the House."

As his successor I have appointed Mr Ian MacGregor, currently chairman of the British Steel Corporation.

Mr MacGregor is a Scotsman who was sent to Washington by the Government during the war to deal with certain aspects of the purchase of arms from the United States. After the war he decided to make his business career there, which he did with conspicuous success, notably with the Amx Corporation.

His first act on becoming chairman of Amx in 1968 was to take it into the coal mining business, by the time he retired from the chairmanship of Amx in 1977 he had built it up into the third largest coal mining company in the United States.

Mr MacGregor's qualities were recognised by the previous Government when they appointed him a deputy-chairman of British Leyland in 1977, but he did not return to Britain on a full-time basis until 1980, when Sir Keith Joseph appointed him chairman of the British Steel Corporation for a three-year term.

Since then he has led BSC with vigour and determination through a period of intense difficulty for the steel industry, at home and abroad. Last year, for the first time ever, BSC's productivity came close to the best levels of its European competitors.

Mr MacGregor's experience in building up and running a successful coal-mining business, and the outstanding leadership he has provided at BSC have demonstrated that he is admirably equipped to become full-time chairman of the coal board. He has agreed to accept a three-year appointment starting on 1 September.

Mr MacGregor has obligations to his partners in the New York based investment bank Lazard Freres, from which he was released for three years in order to become chairman of BSC. I have agreed similar arrangements in order to enable him to take on the chairmanship of the National Coal Board for a further three years. Accordingly, a fee of £1,500,000 will be paid to Lazard Freres in compensation for the loss of Mr MacGregor's services. Two thirds of that fee will be refundable

on a pro-rata basis if Mr MacGregor does not complete his full three-year term.

As with the BSC arrangements, Mr MacGregor will remain a non-active limited partner in Lazard Freres, serving as chairman of the Coal Board. But this will not entitle him to receive any share in the so-called transfer fee. He will be paid £59,325 a year - the same salary as Mr Siddall.

£1,500,000, although less than the maximum compensation payable under the BSC arrangements, is a substantial sum. Indeed, it is what the coal board loses every day. But I am confident that, in securing the services of Mr MacGregor as Chairman of the National Coal Board, it will prove excellent value for money for the taxpayer. The industry and the nation owe him a debt of gratitude.

In making these arrangements my concern has been to find the best possible leadership for the coal board at this critical time. The industry and those who work in it deserve nothing less. The coal industry in this country faces fundamental problems of over-production and uncompetitive costs. It can tackle these problems, it can secure for itself an excellent future and transform itself into the successful modern industry we need.

Mr MacGregor's objectives will therefore be to continue the task started by Mr Siddall and to focus the board's efforts on the earliest practicable return to profitability, on competing successfully in the market place and developing new markets for British coal, and on ensuring the highest possible efficiency and control of costs.

I am satisfied that Mr MacGregor is the best man for the job. This is an appointment which everyone in the industry should welcome.

Mr John Smith, chief opposition spokesman on energy, said: "This is an extremely foolish appointment. It will drive a great industry and end up with the coal board in a position which is not only unworkable but also unprofitable. It is a disaster for the coal industry, but wholly unacceptable to this side of the House."

Mr MacGregor may be a Scot by birth, but he is an American by choice. Few appointments have ever been made to an industry in the face of total and united opposition of the workforce and most of the management.

It is divisive not only in its industrial aspect, but because it has the total opposition of the Labour Party, most of the opposition parties and a large number of Conservative MPs.

Is it not ominous for the miners of Britain that Mr MacGregor, with his limited experience of United States strip mining in the Amx Corporation, is appointed to this position in a manner which amounts to a calculated snub to those well qualified to lead the industry in this country? Is it right to appoint to an industry which needs long-term leadership someone who is only prepared to commit himself for three years to the appointment?

Mr Lawson: Mr MacGregor is a first class businessman who will do the coal board proud. Mr Smith has not

shown the same common sense as the miners did when Mr Scargill tried to handish the MacGregor factor before them in the recent ballot and they rejected it by 69 per cent to 31 per cent.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C) said there were first class men in the industry who needed leadership, and if Mr MacGregor gave leadership, the country would have got a bargain.

Mr Lawson: I was particularly struck in this context by the comment of the New Statesman earlier this month when it referred to Mr MacGregor's charismatic power to motivate those around him.

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirling, Lab): In view of public concern that Mr MacGregor will try to follow up his last job in the steel industry with an even greater hatchet job in the coal industry, why does the Government intend to add £1,500,000 to Lazard Freres in transfer fee on top of the £800,000 already paid at the time of Mr MacGregor's appointment to the British Steel Corporation?

Why poor public money down the drain with such a provocative and disastrous appointment when what the coal industry needs at this particular time is a first class leader who will fight for more investment in the industry to prevent the closure of pits with workable reserves and for a better future for men working in the industry.

Mr Lawson: It is precisely that successful leader I sought. It was certainly not a hatchet man. Hatchet men come a great deal cheaper than this.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) said he believed those miners who voted not to strike and who are deeply opposed to this appointment are not genuinely interested in the future of the industry which cannot run without them.

Is Mr MacGregor going to be able to make visits underground and to the coal face or is this to be a completely different style of leadership?

Mr Lawson: While chairman of British Steel Mr MacGregor has gone out and about and talked to the men at the grass roots, he will do precisely the same in the coalfields. He has established a close rapport. The miners will judge him by what he does once he takes over as chairman.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West Staffordshire, C): It is difficult to accept there is nowhere in this country someone slightly younger who could have been considered. Was Sir Michael Edwards approached for the job?

Mr Lawson: Mr MacGregor was the best choice. I believe him to be the best man for the job.

Mr John Morris (Aberavon, Lab): In view of his age what right has Lazard Freres to demand such enormous amounts of compensation and who is to run British Steel in the meantime?

Mr Lawson: Who is to take his place as a matter for the Secretary of State for Industry. As for his comments about age, I think they are a little tactless since the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Foot) is only 10 months younger than Mr MacGregor.

Skinner: We shall terminate this appointment

Mr Skinner (Barnsley, Lab) said he was seeking an even more onerous position than chairman of the coal board.

Sir William Clark (Croydon, South, C): While it is difficult to find chairmen of the nationalised industries because of the low rate of pay - £59,000 to £60,000 - as compared to private industry, if it was known this appointment was to be on the taxpayers' shoulders at a cost of £500,000 a year, could we not have found someone in to management in this country on these terms?

Mr Lawson: I had to ask two questions. First, who was the best man for the job, and I came to the conclusion it was Mr MacGregor. The second was, was he worth £500,000 a year? The answer was yes. Why poor public money down the drain with such a provocative and disastrous appointment when what the coal industry needs at this particular time is a first class leader who will fight for more investment in the industry to prevent the closure of pits with workable reserves and for a better future for men working in the industry.

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ENERGY

Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, told the Commons that he had met all the bidders for the Wyth Farm offshore oilfield in Dorset whom the British Gas Corporation considered to be valid bidders.

He said he had acted in a wholly even-handed manner when the corporation sought guidance from him on the bidders for the Wyth Farm interests. He said he would make a statement when the current negotiations had been concluded.

Mr Edward Rowlands, an Opposition spokesman on energy (Machyn Trefail, Lab) stated: "It is not an utter scandal that he and the Government have been attempting to destroy a fine partnership between British Gas and BP over the best offshore oilfield we have got."

Can he tell us a little more about these current negotiations? What part has he been playing in them? Time after time we have been told that it is a decision by the British Gas but has not been having secret meetings with some of the bidders to cajole them into putting in acceptable bids?

Mr Lawson: The principle of the matter has been debated in the House and voted on. Parliament has decided it is up to the British Gas Corporation to carry out the will of the House of Commons and Parliament.

As for the part I have played: the British Gas Corporation sought guidance from me on the bids they had received, and in formulating the guidance I have given them, it was necessary to seek from me some elucidation.

Mr Rowlands: This has been an important revelation, because time after time we have said it is nothing to do with the Government but it is to do with British Gas.

Whom has he seen? Which bidders has he met? Did British Gas request him to meet the bidders, or did he seek to meet the bidders to cajole them into getting acceptable bidding?

Mr Lawson: British Gas is well aware of the part I have played. They explicitly sought guidance from me on the bids I have received. I have, of course, acted in a wholly even-handed manner. (Labour protests.)

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on energy: He made the statement that he had been even-handed in relation to bids for Wyth Farm. Has he met all the bidders?

Minister has seen bidders for Wyth Farm

Mr Lawson: I have met all the bidders whom the British Gas Corporation considered to be valid bidders.

Dr Dickson Mahon (Greenock and Port Glasgow, SDP): Can he give an assurance that he has put no pressure on British Gas to reduce the valuation which they put on Wyth Farm? Is it the case that in the last analysis he cannot refuse BP if they wish to buy it?

Mr Lawson: On the last point, he is right. Of course BP have the matching right, that is correct. As to the valuation, the only independent valuation of which I am aware is that produced by the distinguished oil analyst Wood Mackenzie last month who put a value of £141m to £213m.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C): The BGC has been seeking deliberately to try to frustrate the will of Parliament to say this share should be sold. It is unreasonable to behave in this way by artificially inflating the valuation of their stake in Wyth Farm.

Mr Lawson: He is on a good point. Parliament has decided this matter but it is now up to BGC to bring a decision forward expeditiously.

Sharp fall in oil prices not desirable

Britain has no interest whatever in an exaggerated fall in oil prices and would do what it could within the confines of market forces to produce a degree of stability in the oil market.

Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, stated during question time in the Commons.

When Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade, sought a statement on North Sea oil prices and their impact in the finances of the British National Oil Corporation, Mr Lawson said: "North Sea oil prices were determined by the market, as indeed they always have been. BNOC's financial position depended on trading conditions not on the absolute price of oil."

Mr Smith (North Lanarkshire, Lab) said the price of North Sea oil was probably the most important economic factor affecting the country at the moment. His statements have (he said) been total silence or as opaque as the one he has just given. Should not the Government announce its policy as to the price they wish North Sea oil to be sold at, and does he not appreciate that by breaking up BNOC into Britoil and trading by the gas industry with hundreds of millions of pounds of losses which cannot be compensated by profits coming from the production side.

Mr Lawson: The separation of the two parts of BNOC makes no difference whatever to the activities or finances of the trading side. If it makes losses, there are provisions under the Oil and Gas Enterprise Act for grants to be made to make good those losses.

Parliament building

It is hoped to publish before Easter the report of the House of Commons Services Committee on the first phase of the use of the building for parliamentary purposes.

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, said.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab) asked whether Mr Biffen could confirm that the offer of £15m by the Secretary of State for the Environment for the new accommodation still stood.

Mr Biffen replied that the Government's position on finance would be made clear during the debate on the matter.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Telecommunications Bill, conclusion of remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): British Shipbuilders Bill, committee. Debate on the broadcasting of Parliament. Debate on the deportation of Mr Stancu Papusoiu to Romania.

Boards asked to cut spending on advertising

The Earl of Avon, Under-Secretary of State for Energy, is to discuss with Parliament and the new chairman of the Electricity Council at the earliest opportunity, Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of State for Energy, said.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C) had asked that the total expenditure on advertising by the British Gas Corporation and the electricity supply industry in the last year for which figures were available.

Mr Gray: I am informed by the industries that in 1981-82 advertising expenditure was £22m by electricity industry and £23,013,000 by the gas industry.

Mr Eggar: This means that every gas consumer will be paying at least £2 a year for advertising costs and a similar amount for electricity consumers. Both boards will be coming under increasing pressure to cut their advertising. When will they take action with the boards to ensure that the level of costs is reduced?

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Baker tries to put fears at rest

A Government new clause imposing on the Secretary of State for Industry and the Director General of Telecommunications clear duties to provide public call box telephone services, emergency services and services in rural areas, was moved by Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, when the report stage of the Telecommunications Bill was taken in the Commons.

He explained that the new clause, replacing that in the Bill which had merely set out guidelines, would not permit BT to discriminate against any undue price discrimination against any group of people. Fears about higher prices for services in rural areas and for emergency services in BT's prices in monopoly areas, such as local calls and residential rentals, should be limited to less than the rate of inflation.

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Lord Skelmersdale, the Government spokesman: I can neither confirm nor deny that. I can only say what I have read in the press. For good or ill the GLC exists and it is within its rights to spend money

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Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, said during questions.

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Anticipating last week the relative freedom of speech that loss of office brings, he admitted: "I was frightened in 1976 because I did not think that, with the Germans, the Americans and the fund pressing for what they were, that it was politically easy for the Government to deliver."

"Had there been a breakdown - it was in nobody's interests but it would have been very serious indeed: a very substantial run on sterling; pressure on the Government to introduce protection and very severe capital controls would have been very great, which would have jeopardized our membership of the Common Market and the open trading structure; there would have been considerable xenophobia in the country."

Sir Douglas's tactic was to play for time. He infuriated some of his Treasury colleagues by indulging his well-known penchant for intellectual gymnastics while sterling was almost shedding cents by the hour.

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Whitehall brief

In his nine years

Start using the same language as your kids.

Within a year or two, nearly every school-child in Britain will have daily access to a microcomputer.

Already there are over 25,000 in schools. Not only teaching subjects familiar to every parent – like arithmetic and geography. But also teaching a subject that wasn't dreamt of when the rest of us were at school: computers themselves – their use, language and potential.

Most parents would like to catch up. And they can, much more easily than they imagine.

The only problem is acquiring the computer. How big? How expensive? How sophisticated?

Well, before the government launched their huge programme to introduce computers to schools, they asked a group of experts to study all the microcomputers on the market and to make recommendations to the education authorities concerned.

One machine that met their priorities exactly was the BBC Micro. It was economical, yet fast and powerful. And it had the capability to grow with the needs of the user and with the rapid changes in technology.

Teachers agreed overwhelmingly and today it represents over three quarters of all micros being ordered for schools under the government's subsidised scheme.

The BBC agreed too, and chose this machine to put their name to for their massive Computer Literacy Project. The BBC Micro is now an integral part of that project, which includes books, software, courses and a number of major television series, one of which – "Making the Most of the Micro" – is now being broadcast.

The BBC Micro costs less than most videos. (You can get the sophisticated BBC Micro Model B for as little as £399.)

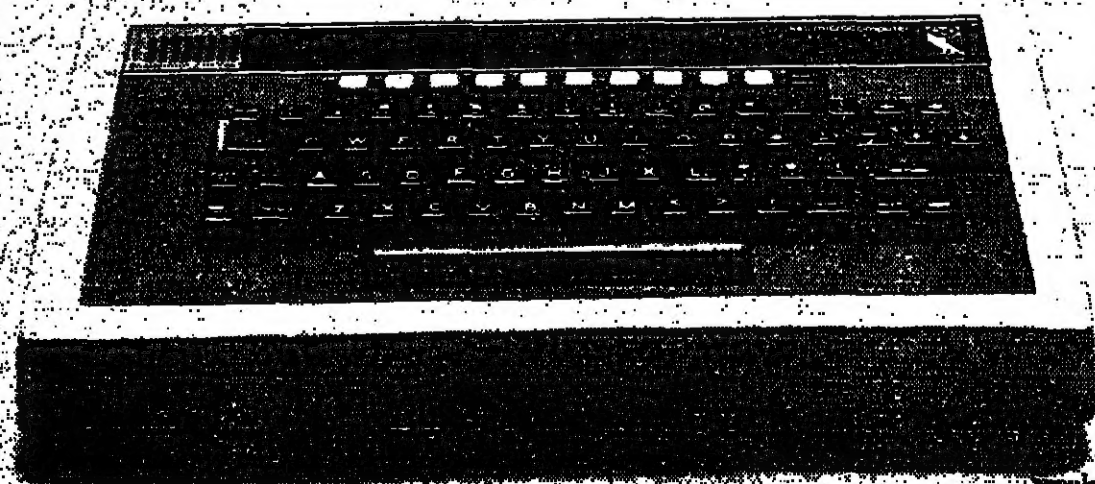
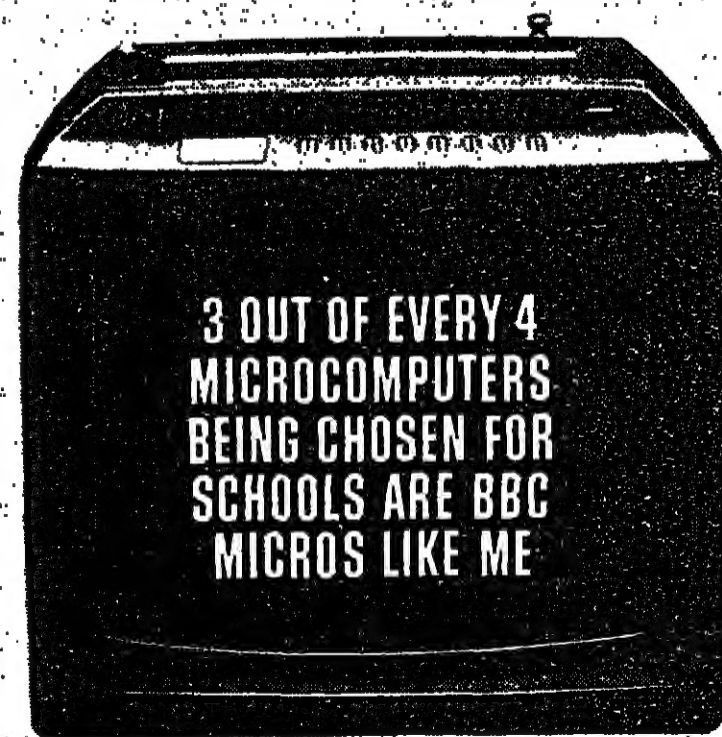
It is light, compact, and easy to use.

It plugs into your TV, and has a wide range of programs, including computer games.

It has a real typewriter keyboard and can, with a special adaptor, take computer programs straight from BBC's Ceefax service. These will start in March.

If you are a credit card holder and would like to buy a BBC Micro, or if you would like the address of your nearest stockist, just phone 01-200 0200.

Or, for more information, send a stamped addressed envelope to BBC Microcomputer, Dept. TT31, PO Box 7, London W3 6XJ.



The BBC Microcomputer System.

Designed, produced and distributed by Acorn Computers Limited.

West bank poisoning: relatives besiege hospital

Doctors baffled by recurring symptoms

From Christopher Walker, Jenin, West Bank

The first thing you see, having pushed through the crowds of anxious relatives besieging the decrepit hospital in the centre of this occupied Palestinian town is a makeshift bed in the main hallway where a young Arab girl on an intravenous glucose drip is being treated with an oxygen mask.

Close by are more than 40 recently abandoned green canvas stretchers, and in some of the desperately overcrowded rooms girl patients are still lying two in a bed. Outside, the nearly deserted streets are patrolled by slow moving Israeli riot vehicles, while merchants strike against what their leaders claim was a mass poisoning attack intended to force them to leave their town.

Down one corridor is a cramped ward where four of the 350 Arab schoolgirls, aged between nine and 19, are slowly recovering from the mysterious disease which has caused mass panic in sections of the West Bank. The father of one frail looking teenager, who has neither spoken nor eaten solid

food for a week, is shouting obscenities at a bearded Arab doctor.

"There is no way to explain to him or you what caused this epidemic yet, but we believe it was the inhaling of some form of toxic gas. It was definitely not a virus," the doctor told us.

"You can write down that whoever did this was animals who do not deserve the name of human beings."

Dr Samir Abdul Jabbar, deputy director of the 55-bed hospital, revealed that on Sunday alone 110 girls had been admitted in less than 12 hours. The most serious aspect of the case now was that the symptoms were recurring. "We are letting people go and within a few hours they are coming back again."

Unlike the propagandists, Arab, Jewish and even Soviet, who have been having a field day since the bizarre epidemic began, the doctor was ultra-cautious in his diagnosis. The disease caused the girls to vomit, faint, turn blue and suffer from headaches but, he

said: "As yet, the tests have shown nothing to provide us with an answer. In my 13 years experience here, I have never seen anything remotely like it."

"The only evidence we have from the girls themselves is that they complain of a sharp, acrid smell."

Later Miss Sohair Sharif, aged 17, described it to us more specifically as "like rotten eggs". One of the handful of Arab males so far hit by the illness, Mr Ziyad Atari, an English teacher at one of the six schools where pupils have been affected appeared to confirm the theory of gas by pointing out that only girl pupils sitting closest to the window were affected. He only suffered symptoms two days later, but other male stretcher bearers have collapsed on arrival at hospital.

Dr Jabbar conceded that an element of mass hysteria may have been responsible for some of the symptoms. "But in the great majority of cases the symptoms are quite genuine."

The potentially harmful effects of the incident on the

already brittle security situation in the West Bank Bank was plain in the dusty streets of Jenin, where angry and suspicious local Arabs lurked in the shadow of their closed shops. Most would only talk to a reporter when Israeli vehicles had moved around the street corners.

Some local Palestinian leaders showed none of the reticence of doctors or victims in attributing the outbreak to a conspiracy by Jewish settlers. After spending several hours in the remote part of the West Bank, the only evidence that appeared incontrovertible was that in some schools traces of yellow dust had been left, there had been a small which appeared to indicate the presence of sulphur.

A joint investigation by the Israeli Army, police, the Health Ministry and civil administration concluded on the results of initial tests that there was no evidence of either accidental or deliberate poisoning on a mass scale.

This finding clashed sharply

with the view expressed earlier by senior Israeli commanders that the incident was mass poisoning carried out by Palestinian agents provocateurs anxious for mass Arab riots tomorrow, the anniversary of the 1976 Land Day.

The Israeli papers carried a range of theories almost as wide-ranging as their political views. The independent *Haaretz*, usually the most reliable on West Bank affairs, plumped for "nerve gas", while *Davar* quoted "official sources" as blaming a sulphur derivative used in agriculture.

While no definitive theory may ever emerge, one important factor the affair has emphasized is that what matters in the West Bank is what people believe happened, rather than what did happen.

From talking to many local Palestinians in Jenin yesterday, there was no room for doubt that they were convinced that either Israeli soldiers or settlers had launched a deliberate chemical attack against their young women.

Nicaragua invasion masterminded by US, 'Time' alleges

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The Reagan Administration is deeply involved with counter-revolutionaries in Nicaragua, according to *Time* magazine.

It says the Nicaraguan Democratic Front (FDN), an alliance of guerrillas opposed to the Marxist-led Sandinista Government, is run by a coordinating committee beneath which there are three military general staffs responsible for the guerrilla campaign. One of those, described as the Third Staff, is supposedly an all-American boy.

Time, quoting FDN sources, says the Third Staff is allegedly the brains of the insurgency. Its job, supposedly, is to pass orders to the Second Staff - made up of members of the Honduran military plus a military representative from Argentina - which in turn relays them to the FDN commanders.

According to *Time*, the coordinator of the separate command group activities is Mr John Negroponte, United States Ambassador to Honduras. A Western diplomat is quoted as saying: "His job is to keep the Hondurans in the game. He keeps them enthusiastic."

MANAGUA: A member of Nicaragua's junta says that his Government has been convinced by the stepped-up attacks of rebel bands that the Reagan administration has now decided to seek the overthrow of the Sandinista government, NYT reports.

Senor Sergio Ramirez Mer-

cado said Washington was not only using former national Guardsmen of the ousted Somoza regime to launch what he called terrorist attacks, but was also seeking to isolate Nicaragua politically and weaken its economy.

In the first interview given by a senior member of the junta since reports of a major increase in the conflict in Nicaragua began to appear earlier this month, Senor Ramirez tried to dismiss the strength of the military opposition.

"If it were only a question of defeating the National Guard, we could do it easily," he said. "But Reagan won't stop at that. He would use different methods to try to overthrow us."

Senor Ramirez also said that the latest rebel offensive threatened the survival of political pluralism in Nicaragua, because some conservative business and political groups had shown sympathy for the insurgents.

But he said the Reagan Administration was stupid in thinking the National Guard of Somoza's National Guard to undermine the Sandinistas, because the population now felt it was again confronting its old enemy.

"Reagan may have thought that, by putting 4,000 or 5,000 guardsmen into Nicaragua, he could erode our power," Senor Ramirez said. "After all, we had a smaller, less-equipped army and we overthrew Somoza. But the analysis is wrong."

Children die in black magic ritual

Singapore (Reuters) - Two children were sacrificed in a black magic ritual on an altar to Indian gods, Singapore's High Court was told.

Adrian Lim, aged 41, and his wife Tan Mui Choo, aged 28, pleaded guilty to killing the children, but the court rejected the admission and ordered the trial to continue. Also before the court is Hoe Kah Hong, aged 27, described as Mr Lim's girl friend.

The prosecutor said that the three ethnic Chinese killed a girl of eight and a boy of 10 in Mr Lim's flat on a big housing estate two years ago. The girl had been sexually assaulted and suffocated and the body of the boy, with burn marks on it, was found two weeks later. He had been drugged and drowned and a syringe containing his blood was discovered in the apartment. Both children were abducted and murdered in "unholy ritualistic practices," the prosecutor said.

Dealers jailed for fraud

Cologne (Reuters) - Three currency dealers were jailed here for their part in the collapse in 1974 of Herstatt, then West Germany's largest private bank. They were convicted of fraudulent dealings.

Norbert Arden was sentenced to seven-and-a-half years, Bruno Heinen to four-and-a-half years and Bruno Bleser to three years and nine months in jail. The trial spanned four years. Their defence lawyers gave notice of appeal.

Cooked soup on eternal flame

Berlin (AP) - A 34-year-old Austrian vagrant found cooking onion soup over Berlin's "eternal flame" was arrested for violating West German insult laws.

Police said he got off with a warning on a previous occasion when he tried to whip up a batch of dumplings over the flame, intended to burn until Germany is reunited.

Sentence cut

The Hague (Reuters) - A Dutch appeals court reduced by one year a six-year prison sentence imposed on Benjamin Evingulu, aged 22, an Armenian, for the attempted murder of the Turkish Consul in Rotterdam last July. The consul was unhurt and three other attackers escaped.

Too Strong

Agana, Guam (AP) - Mr Bruce Strong, a teacher, has withdrawn a petition that sought to have his name legally changed to God. He said the request had "brought undue public reaction upon some of those who are near and dear to me."

Fanfani triumph

Rome - Senator Amintore Fanfani's coalition Government won a vote of confidence by 325 to 211, with five abstentions. The Prime Minister sought the confidence vote because the Opposition had proposed about 100 amendments to budget proposals.

Protesters held

Ottawa - About 20 members of an anti-sealing group face charges of public mischief after their protest vessel, the Sea Shepherd II, was boarded in the Gulf of St Lawrence by police who used tear smoke.

Bomb victim

San Sebastian (Reuters) - Separatist ETA terrorists claimed responsibility for an explosion which killed police bomb disposal expert here and seriously wounded another.

Stolen again

Nice (AP) - For the second time in less than a month, a bronze bas-relief portrait of the late Princess Grace of Monaco was stolen from a commemorative pillar here.

Bank strike

Madrid (Reuters) - Bank workers went on strike in Spain, reducing services to a minimum. The dispute is about pay and will last until Thursday.

Europeans consulted on missiles

From Nicholas Ashford

Washington President Reagan is awaiting final replies from European leaders before completing the draft of a speech he is to give on Thursday in which he is expected to outline new ideas for reducing medium-range missiles in Europe.

The European leaders are responding to a letter which Mr Reagan sent them last week containing several new proposals and asking for their reactions.

The contents of the President's letter have not been disclosed. However it is understood to contain several alternatives. One would allow the United States and the Soviet Union each to deploy 100 missile launchers which could carry a total of no more than 300 warheads.

At present the Soviet Union has 351 triple-warheaded SS20 missiles as well as about 300 ageing single-warheaded SS4 and SS5 missiles targeted against Western Europe. Nato has no land-based medium-range missiles at the moment but plans to start deploying 572 Pershing 2 and cruise missiles at the end of this year.

A second alternative would allow Nato deployment of Pershing 25 and cruise missiles to rise to the level of Soviet missiles in the same class: then both sides would "build down" to a lesser number.

Another alternative involves a more complex mix of weapons and would cover strategic bombers as well as missiles.

All of the proposals which Mr Reagan has put forward would involve at least some Pershing 2s being deployed in West Germany. The United States believes there are political as well as military reasons why Nato's deployment must involve Pershings.

The president originally proposed in his "zero-zero" plan that both sides should eliminate all medium-range missiles.

However, this idea was firmly rejected by the Soviet Union and was regarded as unattainable by the Europeans - at least in the short term.

As a result Mr Reagan has come under growing pressure in recent weeks to come up with an alternative plan for an "interim solution."

Spending protest: Six former US Cabinet officials from both parties have criticized the Reagan Administration's high defence spending and argued that there is no reason to believe that throwing money at defence now would achieve more satisfactory results than throwing money at social programmes in the 1960s, Mohsin Ali writes.

The letter was sent by former Treasury Secretaries Mr John Connally and Mr William Simon and Mr Peter Peterson the former Commerce Secretary, all of them Republicans, and Mr Michael Blumenthal, Mr Douglas Dillon and Mr Henry Fowler, all of them former Democrat Treasury Secretaries.

Arafat puts off talks with King

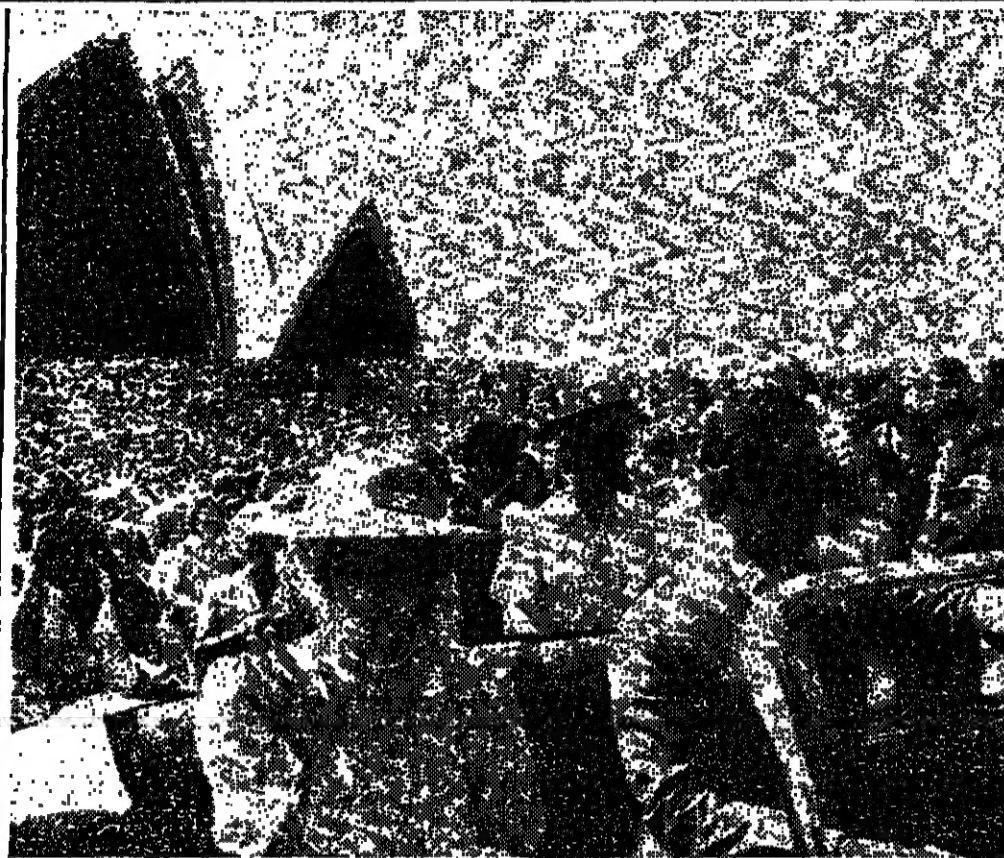
Baghdad (Reuters) - Mr Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, arrived in Iraq yesterday after postponing important talks on Middle East peace with King Hussein of Jordan for reasons that were not fully clear.

The PLO chairman flew to Iraq from Saudi Arabia, saying he had postponed his trip to Jordan until later this week because the King was busy with a state visit by Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman, who arrives in Amman today for three days.

Meanwhile, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, discussed bilateral relations and the Iraq-Iran war.

The President confirmed Iraq's "unwavering policy" of trying to reach a lasting and just solution to the Gulf war.

DAMASCUS: An envoy from Chancellor Kreisky of Austria met Palestinian officials here yesterday to discuss a proposed exchange of prisoners between Israel and the PLO.



Stars of Sydney: The Prince and Princess of Wales being greeted by huge crowds outside the Sydney Opera House yesterday.

UN chief and Andropov discuss Kabul

Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet party leader, yesterday met Senor Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, to discuss disarmament and "ways of normalizing the situation around Afghanistan".

Senor Perez de Cuellar met Mr Andropov last November at the funeral of the late President Brezhnev. He is in Moscow on a three-day visit at the Soviet leader's personal invitation.

Soviet accounts of the visit have given the impression that the main topic of discussion was nuclear disarmament, and the official report of yesterday's encounter by Tass emphasized

the role of the United Nations in reducing the arms race and the attendant "danger of nuclear war".

Sources said, however, that the talks, in which Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, also took part, dealt in some detail with Afghanistan, a subject currently exercising both Mr Andropov and the United Nations.

The Tass account of yesterday's meeting said "considerable attention" had been paid to areas of tension in the world, including the Middle East and Afghanistan.

Diplomats said the reference

to the "situation around Afghanistan" suggested the Russians were sticking to their view that "interference" by Pakistan and the Western powers was the root cause of the Afghan crisis, and that an undertaking of non-interference was a precondition of any move towards a settlement.

Repeated reports of Soviet casualties in the press here point to the Kremlin's concern over the continuing increase three years after the Soviet invasion. They also show, however, that Moscow will not withdraw unless it can prove that its costly commitment has been worthwhile.

Exile threat prompts arms hunt

Port-au-Prince (NYT) - The Haitian Government, apparently worried by a growing militancy on the part of exile groups in the United States, has begun shopping for new armaments, including aircraft.

Diplomats say these opposition groups are deeply divided and do not seem to pose any immediate threat to the Government of President Jean-Claude Duvalier. But the regime's response to recent exile attacks has demonstrated that Haitian security forces are deficient in organization and preparedness.

The United States, although alarmed by the prospect of a new point of instability in the troubled Caribbean region, has shown reluctance to provide President Duvalier with new weaponry, apparently fearing opposition in Congress over what legislators describe as a lack of political freedom here.

Last year United States military aid to Haiti amounted to only \$475,000 (\$316,000 for spare parts, upgrades and training).

In one operation against invading exiles last year, Haitian soldiers fled under fire from the civilian militia, which mistook them for guerrillas.

The claim was treated with the usual ridicule by military sources in South Africa.

According to the Lesotho authorities, there were also widely scattered attacks during Saturday night and Sunday on police stations and a Roman Catholic mission along the northern and western borders of the kingdom, as well as an attempt to blow up electrical installations in Maseru.

Mauritian Premier survives crisis

Port Louis (Reuters), AFP - Mr Anerood Jugnauth, the Mauritius Prime Minister, yesterday formed a new Cabinet after the resignation of 11 of his 19 ministers last week.

The ministers who resigned expressing lack of confidence in Mr Jugnauth included Mr Jean-Claude de l'Estrac and Mr Paul Berenger, the influential Foreign Affairs and Finance Ministers.

All 11 were members of the Mauritian Militant Movement

(MMM), a partner in the left-wing coalition. They said they would continue to support the Government for the time being as parliamentary backbenchers.

The new 16-strong Cabinet includes 10 members from the MMM, five from the Mauritian Socialist Party and one from a small left-wing group. Mr Jugnauth takes over the finance portfolio himself while Mr Anil Gayan is appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tourism and Emigration.

The new Cabinet is as follows:

Prime Minister and Finance: Anerood Jugnauth; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education: Herminie Beaudouin; Minister of Agriculture: Charles Chaudron; Minister of Health: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Labour: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Social Security: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Transport: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Water and Electricity: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Housing: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Environment: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Culture: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Sports: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Youth: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Women's Affairs: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Human Resources Development: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Information: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Communication: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of External Relations: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of International Trade: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Tourism: Joseph B. Ramet; Minister of Emigration: Joseph B. Ramet.

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Assam militant leaders call off violence but boycott Mrs Gandhi

Delhi (Reuters) - A powerful bomb exploded in the Assam capital of Gauhati yesterday as militant leaders there announced a temporary suspension of their anti-immigrant campaign and political chiefs issued a fresh appeal for peace.

The bomb, the latest in a series of blasts across Assam in the past two weeks, caused only minor damage and no casualties. It exploded in the garden of a state official.

Leaders from nine political parties in Assam have issued a joint appeal for an all-out effort to restore peace and harmony.

About 3,000 people died and more than 250,000 were made homeless when violence flared last month during local elections which gave Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party a two-thirds majority.

The leaders included representatives from the Congress, Communist, left-wing and tribal parties who met Mr Hrishwar Saikia the Assam Chief Minister on Sunday to discuss rehabilitation measures being taken by the Government.

The Government has set up a special six-level relief committee to oversee aid and rehabilitation measures for the thousands of villagers made homeless in the bloodshed.

Mr Prakesh Mehrotra, Governor of Assam, said the situation in the state was gradually improving and many people had already started returning to their villages.

Leaders of the campaign to oust immigrants from Assam met in Gauhati during the weekends and afterwards called on supporters to help the relief programme.

They said they were temporarily suspending their agitation, which had included strikes, road blocks and a boycott of last month's elections.

The decision was taken by the leaders of the two hardline groupings of ethnic Assamese Hindus spearheading the campaign - the All-Assam Students' Union and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad or People's Revolutionary Front.

But they said they would continue their non-cooperation with Mr Saikia's government, which they say was elected by immigrant votes, and called on the public to boycott Mrs Gandhi's meeting when she visits the state tomorrow.

They said tomorrow would be observed as a day of mourning for those killed and black flags would be hoisted at meetings addressed by the Prime Minister.

Zia softens press censorship

General Zia ul-Haq softened press censorship at the weekend by declaring the periodicals and journals which had been required to submit to pre-publication censorship would now be permitted to censor themselves.

Daily newspapers already observe self-censorship, which apparently implies that nothing may be published criticizing martial law and all government "advises" must be accepted by the newspapers.

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

Total censorship was decreed in late 1979 when the regime cancelled the general elections for the second time and banned all political parties and political activity in Pakistan.

General Zia has not accepted the call by newspaper management and editors to replace the 18-year-old press and publication ordinance imposed by Field Marshal Ayub Khan, by an agreed code of ethics.

General Zia declared that

pre-censorship of the Karachi papers would remain in force until revoked by the Sind authorities. The Sind Government reintroduced pre-censorship after recent

He refused to lift the ban on government advertising in the chain of Urdu language newspapers, Jang, including its London edition, Jang was held responsible by the Government for alleged bias reporting on rioting in Karachi.



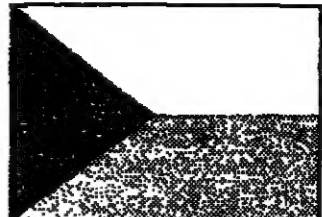
Fighting fit: Mr Lech Walesa, looking confident as he is greeted by 600 cheering supporters at Gdansk shipyards at the weekend. He told them: "The time will come when we will win". Solidarity supporters signed an appeal for the release of Poles convicted of martial law offences.

Chill legacy for reformists

Thaw is slow to come in the golden city

In this second article on Czechoslovakia, ROGER BOYES describes the plight of the dissidents and the last section of society to benefit from any relaxation of Communist discipline.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA



Part 2: Dissidents

In Prague, the golden city, silence too is golden.

It is, in a meteorological rather than political sense, spring in the Czechoslovak capital and the sun picks out the goldleaf on the cupolas. During the frequent intervals at the Smetana opera, the audience parade outside, as if under hypnosis, the men bowing formally to acquaintances, the women sparkling like Bohemian crystal. These are the people who can claim the glittering prizes: the black Tatra saloon cars, the wooden chalets in the lush countryside, the city, regular access to the hard-currency shops.

Jiri, however, does not get to the opera very often. Once a well known figure in the Czech media, he is about to start work as a night porter, only his second job (the first was a three-week stint as a storage worker) since being released from prison almost a year ago. He served three years for "subversion", that is signing and propagating the Charter 77 human rights manifesto which tried somehow to keep alive the reform spirit of 1968.

Together we go through a list of 145 historians who were dismissed after the Soviet invasion. A cursory examination shows the state of affairs: one is a window cleaner (six years away from retirement), one was a rat catcher, another is a mortuary assistant. Not many

are in prison. Some have emigrated, some have died.

Perhaps the most prominent Czechoslovak dissident has recently been released, or at least had his arrest suspended, because of ill health. He is Vaclav Havel, a gifted playwright who during the Prague Spring staged a number of pieces that were both absurdist and politically satirical. Now he is indeed a sick man (he had pleurisy) and moves frenetically, nervously. After some years in prison, where he shared a cell with 20 non-political criminals, he suffers anxiety attacks every time his wife leaves his flat to walk the dog.

His release may signal a thaw in government policy towards dissidents but it seems, in the view of both dissidents and diplomats, unlikely. The thaw may come in other areas - such as the economy - but the dissidents will be the last to benefit.

The dissident strategy over the past decade has been straight forward enough. After the fall of Alexander Dubcek, the first priority was to identify those who still shared a sympathy for the reform move-

ment and to channel this into some form of public expression. Since 1977 this has taken the form of the Charter, a human rights document signed by just over 1,000 people. That is not a lot and clearly vindicates the government contention that Charter is not a mass movement - but it is significant that its detailed analyses of the current situation, which have been produced over the past year, draw on a wide range of expertise. It is evident that people still in the establishment - lawyers, sociologists and journalists for example - have supplied information. The network is thus much larger than the 1,000 signatories.

The government response has been more complex, partly because of some confusion over what exactly posed a threat to the system. About 500,000 have left the Communist Party over the past decade, 200,000 of them expelled. The party is thus broadly purged of those who have Dubcek-style sympathies, but a huge extra-party reservoir of dissident support has been created. Those who were expelled often had difficulty in their jobs - factory managers were demoted or moved sideways; those in sensitive jobs in ministries, universities and the media were dismissed.

Czechoslovakia has shown some sensitivity to Western pressure on human rights. Thus, before Mr Gustav Husak was due last winter to make a state visit to Austria, the security authorities approached Mr Havel and encouraged him to ask for clemency. He refused. Since Brezhnev's death, the Kremlin has signalled that it is

prepared to put up with most things in the East European states providing they maintain public order - that is keep dissidents in line - and avoid economic disaster. Moscow, it appears, has drawn concrete lessons from the Polish experience.

There is an old joke in Eastern Europe that could be reapplied to Prague, 15 years after the Spring. A Polish police dog passes his Czech counterpart on the frontier. "I'm going



Mr Havel: One of the most prominent dissidents shown in a 1978 photo down to Prague for a good feed," says the Polish hound, "but why are you going to Poland?" "To bark," replies the Czech mastiff. There is quite a bit of eating but not much barking in Prague nowadays.

● The Czechoslovak economy began to falter in 1980 not 1960 as stated in yesterday's first article in this series.

Next: Foreign policy



Prisoners of conscience

Czechoslovakia: Jaroslav Javorsky

By Caroline Moorehead

Mr Jaroslav Javorsky, the son of a popular Czechoslovak tennis player, is serving a 13-year prison sentence for attempting to leave the country without permission.

His mother says Mr Javorsky has been on a hunger strike to draw attention to his case and is now weak, his condition worsened by appalling prison conditions.

In 1977 Mr Javorsky was granted a two-week visa to visit West Germany to see his parents, who were working there, having been granted permits to do so. As the date for his return to Czechoslovakia drew near, the whole family decided to apply for political asylum.

Before it was granted, Mr Javorsky learnt that his fiancée and her eight-year-old daughter were attempting to leave Czechoslovakia without a visa.



Mr Javorsky: On hunger strike

He went to meet them at the border and all three were arrested and handed over to the Czechoslovak authorities.

A few months later the fiancée and her daughter were released, but Mr Javorsky was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment. He will be 44 before he is released.

His unusually severe sentence is attributed to the fact that his parents managed to get political asylum in West Germany and that the Czechoslovak authorities resent former sporting champions preferring to live outside the country.

Australia to sever legal links

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The federal and state attorneys-general have set a timetable for severing the last remaining legal links between Britain and Australia.

Meeting in Adelaide last weekend, the standing committee of attorneys-general agreed to abolish appeals from state supreme courts to the Privy Council from January next year.

The states and the Commonwealth also agreed that the British Government would lose its powers to intervene in the appointment of state governors. At present, while the Governor-General is appointed on the advice of the Queen's Australian ministers, the state governors are appointed on the advice of British ministers in consultation with the State government, but the Commonwealth Office in London retains the power to veto any recommendation.

The attorneys-general decided in principle last year to sever the residual constitutional links with Britain. The weekend meeting was to agree on its timing.

Senator Gareth Evans, the federal Attorney-General, said that the states and the federal Government would have the legislation to end appeals to the Privy Council prepared by September. The British Parliament will consider complementary legislation implementing the Australian decision later this year.

"The remaining links will be severed from January 1 next year," Senator Evans said. "This is a long overdue reform."

The effect of the decisions made by the attorneys-general in no way alters the constitutional links between Australia and the Crown.

● CANBERRA: Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, said: "Mr Denis Worrall, the South African Ambassador was summoned to his office yesterday because the ambassador had made comments that went beyond acceptable limits, Reuter reports."

In a statement Mr Hayden said Dr Worrall had been called in because of remarks he made last week, claiming that Australian policy towards South Africa was "confrontational, prescriptive and intrusive". Mr Hayden said the comments, made at a meeting of Apex clubs - voluntary bodies similar to Rotary clubs - in Sydney "went beyond acceptable limits".

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Tourism in retreat

Travel agents swamped by French trying to beat cash controls

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

Foreign exchange bureaux and travel agents were swamped yesterday as French citizens flocked to buy foreign currency and book their holidays in a last-minute attempt to escape the new restrictions which came into force at midnight last night.

The Government has said that the measures will not be retroactive in that holidays already taken will not be included in the new exchange limits, but it is not at all clear whether holidays taken from tomorrow will not be subject to the new restrictions, whether or not they have been paid for in advance.

"We are in a complete fog", one travel agent said. An emergency meeting between travel trade representatives and government ministers held yesterday to try to thrash out some of the more pressing problems, is to be continued today. A mass protest demonstration by tour operators, travel agents and others is to be held in Paris tomorrow.

The single measure that has prompted the most comment and criticism is the limit of 2,000 francs (£190) per adult per year and 1,000 francs per child on foreign currency destined to be spent abroad. A further 1,000 francs per person may be taken out of the country in French currency on tourist trips abroad. Business trips are exempted.

Tour operators and travel agents predict that the new measures will cut the number of French holidays abroad by half, and say that it could lead to

hundreds of bankruptcies in the trade. They point out that poor countries such as Tunisia will be among those hardest hit by a drop in French tourists, because of the competition for hotel rooms and places in the already overcrowded camping sites from the millions of French people now likely to take their holidays in France. A drop in foreign tourists means a drop in the inflow of much-needed foreign currency.

There is particular concern among educationists about the effect of the new restrictions on children's visits abroad, mostly to Britain, to learn a foreign language. Most foreign language courses abroad last at least two to three weeks. Organizers of educational visits are to ask the Government to exempt them from the controls.

The Government has been taken aback by the ferocity of the reaction to its measures, particularly in view of the fact that they are due to last only until the end of the year, and only affect 16 per cent of the population who take their holidays abroad.

But the measure, more than all others in the Government's austerity package, seems to have struck a common cord of outrage at what is seen to be a direct attack on a fundamental individual liberty - the freedom to travel.

The Government estimates that the measures will produce foreign currency savings equivalent to nearly 7,000m francs. In an attempt to explain the strategy to a doubting public, M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, issued a statement saying that to obtain similar foreign currency savings, the Government would have to cut real incomes by 1 per cent, or 2.5 per cent if the lowest paid were exempted. But the dissatisfaction persists.

GENEVA: Swiss reaction to the restrictions was no less vigorous. Mr. Marco Solari, director of tourism for the Ticino canton, described them as "an insult to the European concept and freedom of movement". Alan McGregor writes. In alleging that the restrictions contravened the OECD agreement on tourism incentives, including currencies, the Swiss national tourism office director, Mr. Jean-Pierre Enz, said the question of appropriate representations would have to be considered by the Government.

Crans-Montana, in the Valais, seems likely to be the worst-hit Swiss Alpine resort, with the French comprising 30 per cent of visitors in both summer and winter.

Geneva also will be affected, being a favourite shopping centre for people from Haute Savoie, Ain and the Jura. Conversely, the restrictions may also have a drastic impact on cross-border shopping expeditions by Swiss.

Difficult year ahead for Spain

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

In the booming 1960s, when Señor Manuel Fraga was Spain's Minister of Information and Tourism, they counted everybody in the official statistics of tourists, including Moroccan immigrant workers in transit and even the sailors of the US Sixth Fleet when they put ashore in Palma, Majorca, for a few hours' leave.

But now the Socialists in government have decided there should be an end to a whole series of tourism myths that Spain is "different", including its statistics.

So instead of last year's official figure of 42 million tourists given by the Centre Democrat Government just before it resigned, estimates put a more realistic figure of 25 million has been made public by Señor Ignacio Fuego Lago, the new Secretary General of Tourism. "All we can really say is 25 million and many people in transit for instance the French going on holiday to Morocco," he told foreign correspondents.

Although the situation has changed from the 1960s when there were years when the earnings from tourism exceeded all Spain's export income, tourism still remains this country's biggest single source of foreign exchange.

Tourism last year earned 787,568m pesetas (£3,937m) compared to 1,754,664m pesetas for total Spanish exports in the period January to October.

The new government's tourism strategy is to give more emphasis to planning, marketing and efficiency than when the Franco regime let the sun and the beaches do the advertising, virtually backed up by a series of artistically memorable posters, and the hotel and holiday home developers were left rip without any proper planning controls, blighting large tracts of the country's coastline.

But the economic depression in West Europe - and the British, French, Germans and Dutch are still Spain's most important customers - will not permit any socialist experiments, officials emphasized.

This season's prospects were described by officials as "difficult" regarding Britain and West Germany, with bookings from Britain 15 per cent down on last year, though they hoped this was because many Britons had been waiting to see what they could afford after the Chancellor's budget. Worst hit in the crisis was the Netherlands, with a 30 per cent drop in bookings compared to those between November, 1981, and March last year.

Half of all European tours have Spain as their destination, so tourism has to stay competitive and must seek to improve facilities like camping sites. Officials made clear their "distaste" for the Spanish hoteliers' decision to raise prices by an average of 16 per cent this season when inflation last year was officially between 14 and 15 per cent.

Young people visiting Spain, Señor Fuego said, had been found to despise their parents' sunshine and beach holidays and efforts were being made to put Spain in step with the new fashionable holidays with marked cultural content: art galleries, exhibitions or music festivals, archaeology, or with an underlying ecological or environmental aspect.

An additional problem this year, Señor Fuego admitted, is due to Spain's fourth consecutive year of drought, though most of the worst affected areas are villages far from the tourists' path. He gave an assurance Majorca will not face serious problems this season, but warned that in Palma, the capital, as always happens when it does not rain, the water "will be more salty - without it meaning it becomes undrinkable".

Tugendhat champions Europe's forgotten voters

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

The four million disenfranchised voters of the EEC represent "a scandal which strikes at the heart of our democratic ideals", Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Conservative British Commissioner told a meeting in Brussels last night.

These "forgotten" voters, he said, were people "for whom the governments of Europe are currently engaged in trying to shuffle off responsibility on to one another".

He was referring to the way in which member-states so far have not only failed to agree on

a uniform system of elections to the European Parliament, but have been unable to settle on any rules which would allow every EEC citizen a vote in next year's direct elections. Mr Tugendhat was particularly critical of the way in which the quarter of a million Britons living in other EEC states were not allowed to vote for either Westminster or for the European Parliament. This made Britain the only member-state which totally deprived its citizens living elsewhere in the EEC of any kind of vote.

"To penalize in this way

Britons who are often key emissaries of the UK in commerce and in other fields, who maintain their connections and interest in the UK and who are directly affected by the management of the British economy," he said. "The British Government should be able to devise a means of providing similar rights for their nationals if they have the will to do so".

He said the Government had been fully aware that it needed to work out the complicated revision of the electoral law required for some time. "Min-

isters must not allow administrative convenience and bureaucratic foot dragging to outweigh the requirements of basic justice which they are responsible for ensuring for their own nationals."

Mr Tugendhat said there was still time for the Government to give the vote to Britons in Europe along the lines of a recent House of Lords recommendation.



Mr Tugendhat: "250,000 British are penalized".

Law Report March 29 1983

Chancery Division

Claimants in tort excluded in winding-up

In re Islington Metal and Plating Works Ltd

Before Mr Justice Harman

[Judgment delivered March 23]

Unliquidated claims to damages in tort were not admissible to proof in a winding-up. His Lordship so held on a summons by the joint liquidators of Islington Metal and Plating Works Ltd, in which the Department of Employment was joined as a defendant to represent all the unsecured creditors other than claimants to damages in tort, and in which Mr and Mrs Peter Wildridge were joined to represent all persons having any claims in tort, and Mr Henry Herbst to represent the contributories.

Mr Alan Steinfield for the joint liquidators; Mr Philip Heslop for the Department of Employment; Mr C. G. Russell for Mr and Mrs Wildridge; Mr Herbst was neither present nor represented.

MR JUSTICE HARMAN said that the liquidators asked the court to answer who was entitled to be admitted to proof in the winding-up.

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Triumphant Greens: Frau Petra Kelly, Herr Otto Schilly (centre) and Herr Gerd Bastian announcing at a press conference in Bonn that ecologist and peace groups from West Germany and abroad will accompany the Greens to the Bundestag today.

Greens spurn left-wing isolation

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Cheered on by pacifists, women's groups, ecologists, women from Greenham Common, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, representatives of Poland's banned Solidarity trade union movement and other assorted well-wishers, the Greens today stage a symbolic march on Parliament as West Germany's newest, smallest and most colourful party formally takes its seats in the sanctuary of conventional politics.

Only in the nick of time, however, have they decided where they are going to sit. Until yesterday, the Greens threatened to stage the first of countless many demonstrations, in the Bundestag and outside, not over the weighty issues of peace, disarmament, the environment or the forthcoming census, but on the mundane issue of their parliamentary seats.

The Government wanted to banish these sartorially inelegant intruders to the outer edges of the political arena, isolating them on the far left of the Bundestag would appear ideologically apt. But the 27 Greens and their lone alternative representa-

tative from West Berlin would have none of it: they wanted to squeeze in the middle, between the Social Democrats and the right Christian Democratic block, thus putting them symbolically in the thick of things and conveniently within easy focus of the television cameras.

They threatened otherwise to remain standing in their chosen location unless they had the seats they wanted, and were backed up by the Social Democrats who asserted that no one, physically or ideologically, stood or sat to the left of them.

All weekend Frau Petra Kelly and her Green colleagues argued it out with the hapless Herr Richard Stücklen, the stolid president of Parliament, who has been forced to stand down in favour of Herr Rainer Barzel for the coming legislative period. In the end, they got their way. And so today they sit, a tiny buffer zone, between their rivals on the left and right.

Unlike British MPs, who flop on to parliamentary benches wherever they find room, each German deputy has his own

allotted seat, or rather desk, which makes for good order and easy identification. But by a quirk of history the Free Democrats, who maintain they are the country's true centrists, sit on the far right. And with the Greens now in the middle, the Bundestag will have a very unGerman lack of logic in its composition.

The Greens also laid claim to one of the four vice-presidencies of Parliament, but that proved too much for the others, and they have been denied. Other parliamentarians appear still to have fears that the Greens are too inexperienced or too disrespectful to have even partial control of this staid political club.

The Greens, however, are now displaying a worrying degree of sobriety and parliamentary responsibility, and spoke yesterday of full participation in all Bundestag business and committees.

Everyone hoped their arrival in Bonn would live up to one of the world's dullest assemblies. But the pessimists always forecast that Bonn would change the Greens more than the Greens would change Bonn.

US and EEC vie for food markets

Cairo (Reuters) - A struggle for Third World food markets warmed up yesterday with the United States and Europe both signalling determination to push ahead with sales of subsidized farm produce.

Mr John Block, the US Secretary of Agriculture, said America has an obligation to compete when it is felt its established trade was being threatened.

He was speaking on the third day of a visit to Egypt during which he sought to drum up Egyptian interest in purchase of American farm products. The visit coincided with a mission to Cairo by a European Community parliamentary delegation which included M. Louis Eyraud of France, a member of the Community's agricultural committee.

M. Eyraud said that Europe would seek to match any fresh

American deals like last January's sale to Egypt of one million tonnes of subsidized wheat flour.

He added: "If the US can dump, the Community can dump too."

France complained strenuously about the US sale saying it was being squeezed out of a competitive market. Washington said the deal was a warning against excessive European subsidies.

Mr Block spoke after a meeting with President Mubarak of Egypt. "We are not looking for trouble with the EEC," Mr Block said. "We just feel we have an obligation to compete in different countries where we feel we have an important stake in the market."

He did not anticipate an agricultural trade war, "but we have no alternative but to compete".

Staid and steady youth of France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Conservative tastes and an adherence to traditional values are the hallmarks of the young generation in France, and not the drugs, violence and sexual promiscuity with which they are often labelled, according to a poll of young people aged 15 to 20 carried out for the French television channel TF1 and the *Nouvel Observateur* magazine.

Top of the modern generation scale of values comes the family (93 per cent), followed by work (89 per cent), love (81 per cent) and travel (80 per cent). Revolution, trade unions and politics came at the bottom of the list, with less than 29 per cent describing them as very important.

Asked how they saw themselves in 10 years, most considered that they would be living in a comfortable flat (81 per cent), with a faithful partner to whom, in most cases, they would be married (76 per cent), and with an interesting job (87 per cent).

Girls preferred boys with short, styled hair, wearing a tie, while boys preferred girls with long, natural hair with little or no make-up. Given a free evening, most preferred to go out in groups with friends; only 4 per cent said they would like to go out alone with a person of the opposite sex.

Answers were equally divided on the question of whether virginity held a moral or sentimental value. Nearly

half the sample said they had never had any sexual relations, and only 1 per cent said that they had any form of homosexual relations.

Only one in 10 had smoked pot or hashish, and then mostly only occasionally.

While just over half thought that French society needed to be reformed, only 18 per cent thought that it should be changed completely.

Top of the list for the most popular jobs were journalist, doctor, teacher, and engineer, while army officer and banker came bottom.

The vast majority of young people believed their lives would be happier than those of their parents.



Boris Pasternak: Grave is a place of pilgrimage.

Pasternak's family are facing eviction

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The family of the Russian poet and novelist Boris Pasternak are to be evicted from his dacha in the writers' village of Peredelkino, despite intensive efforts by leading literary figures to have the house preserved as a museum.

The Soviet authorities have been saying for some time to force Pasternak's son, Yevgeny, to leave the house, not far from Moscow, and hand it over to the state for "relocation". Mr Yevgeny Pasternak occupies the dacha, which contains many of his father's archives and drawings, with the widow of Pasternak's other son, Leonid, who died in 1976. The authorities argue that since the Pasternak dacha - like others at Peredelkino - belongs to the Union of Writers, it should be made available to a member of the union, and not to Pasternak's surviving relatives.

In a long wrangle involving the union, the Ministry of Culture and the Society for the Preservation of Historical and Cultural Monuments, the family have been trying to establish a Pasternak museum at the dacha, with themselves as guardians and trustees.

Pasternak lived and worked at Peredelkino until his death in 1960. His grave in the churchyard across the fields is a place of pilgrimage for many Russians.

The family lodged an appeal against the eviction demand in January, sources said, but the appeal was turned down. "It may now be too late to save the dacha for posterity," one Peredelkino resident said.

According to documents which have reached *The Times*, the official organizations involved in the case say that, in view of the "prevailing conditions" in the writers' village, it would be "inexpedient" to use individual dachas as memorials or to turn them into museums.

The official view is that there are too many "leading writers" who could claim to be worthy of a museum, and that the communal "hall of creativity" at Peredelkino has adequate facilities for exhibitions devoted to their work.

The decision is bound to have an impact on other cases, including that of the writer Lidya Chukovskaya, daughter of the distinguished author of children's books, Kornei Chukovsky.

Mr Block spoke after a meeting with President Mubarak of Egypt. "We are not looking for trouble with the EEC," Mr Block said. "We just feel we have an obligation to compete in different countries where we feel we have an important stake in the market."

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from Richard Owen
Moscow

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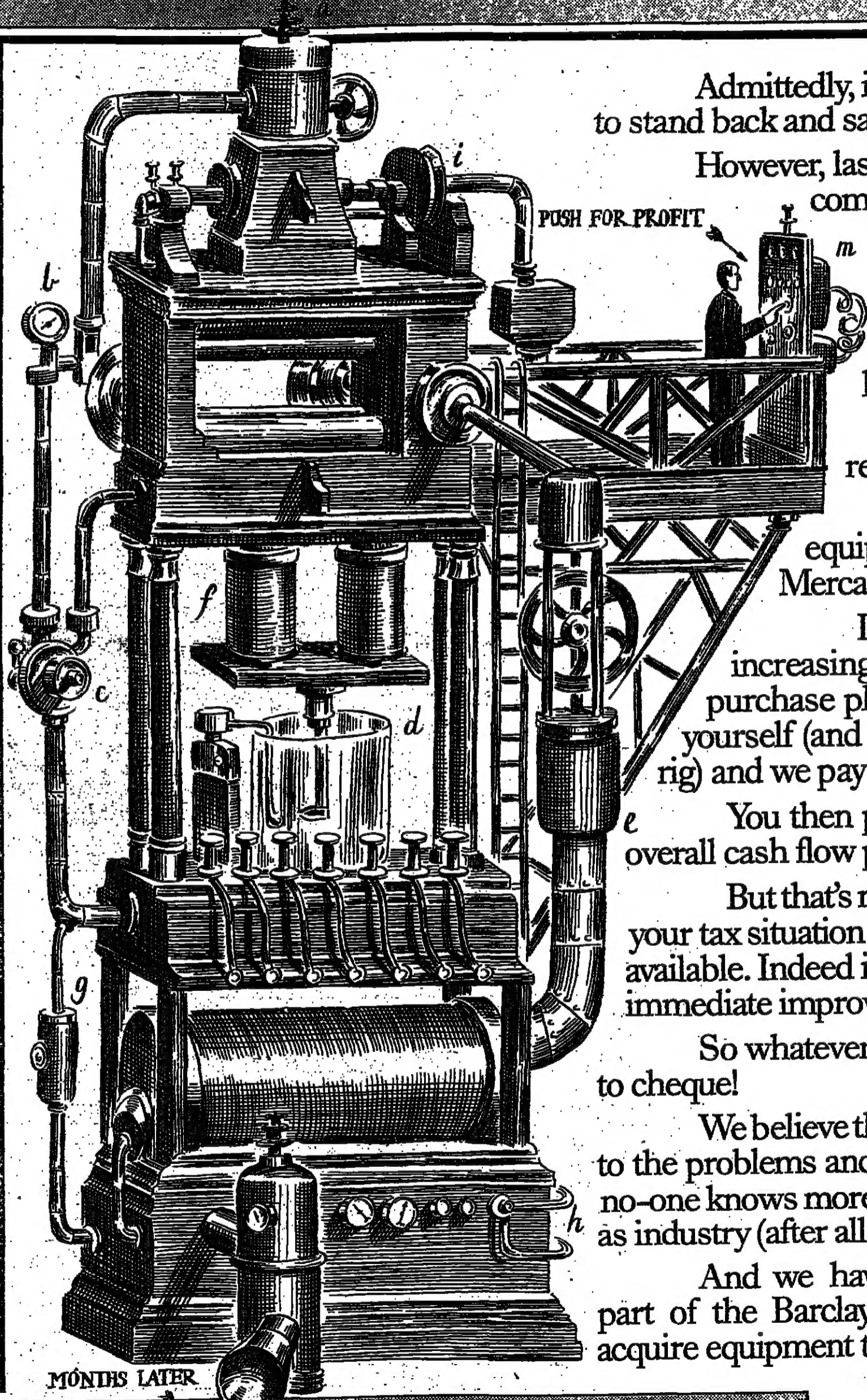
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هكذا من الأصل

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

In search of style for a 14-year-old with a will of her own.

Mother wouldn't hate it . . .

THE OTHER CHIC

New at Browns: a minimal, concrete-walled, black-floored area devoted to Comme des Garçons, the unstructured Japanese clothes that made waves at the Paris collections last week. "When I first bought the clothes three years ago, I was one of just five buyers," says Browns' Joan Burstein. "Now you have to fight to get into the showroom." Designer Rei Kawakubo, 40, is much admired by the

Punk generation for her original approach to fashion (some say anti-fashion). The clothes are also bought by her own generation who were brought up on studies, fun fashions and are unwilling to dress now for a matronly middle age.

Comme des Garçons has 23 boutiques and 30 franchise shops in Japan, a boutique in Paris, and a shop-within-a-shop (as at Browns) at Henry Bendel in New York.

(selling from £100) are collectors' items and she works full time on designing knits and clothes and on cataloguing the 1,000 hand-knitters.

"I am constantly surprised at how knits stay in fashion," says Edina, who attributes her fondness for fresh folkloric colours to her Hungarian background. "I personally like wearing them because they are so comfortable."

Actress Edina Ronay first took an interest in traditional British knitting when she collected Fair Isles from the twenties and thirties along with other antique clothes. Now her own knits in pure cotton and silk for summer

rich tartans - on an otherwise sombre season.

Kenzo underlined all the strong themes: the revival of the dress (cut by him with a clever cape sleeve), the three quarter kimono jacket and coat - especially stunning in his new furs that mix Arctic and red fox.

He is the Peter Pan of Paris and his strength is his youth and sense of fun.

He does skirts as short as anything in the mini era, although there are several alternatives including a pretty Chinese skirt with a hip wrap.

Kenzo mixes the different cultures with his colourful knits woven into tapestries of colour, cut into square Japanese shapes but made with Parisian polish.

Last word from Paris: Yves Saint Laurent, still valued as a weather vane of style, showed his slim skirts (including a new bell shape) to the knee, thus letting down (or rather up) the unified hemline front shown by the leading French designers.

The rest of the skirts were very slim and mostly calf-length, but Montana broke the skirt with a slit or an asymmetric wrap and Karl Lagerfeld at Chloe - like several others - hedged his bets with a double hemline, just grazing the knee for a tunic, top, and six inches below for the underskirt.

Kenzo Takada closed the collections with a show that splashed colour - hot pink with orange, pale rose and



From left to right: Citrus yellow cotton shirt £28.20. Striped T-shirt £28.80. Cotton bermuda shorts £12.30. All available in unisex sizes 8 upwards in a selection of 25 colours. Leather belts £2.50 each. From Benetton, 6 South Molton Street, W1; 40 Hampstead High Street, NW3 Bromley, Guildford; Cheltenham.

Windsor, Cardiff, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh. Striped cotton vest sizes 10-16, £3.99 available after Easter. Blue/white canvas sandals, sizes 3-8. Cropped cotton trousers sizes 10-16, £12.99. All from most branches of Marks & Spencer, Blue cotton 3-button T-shirt £2.60 from

Benetton, W1 and branches. Jade green cotton dungarees with striped braces, also electric blue, fuchsia, ochre, white and red, sizes 8-14 by F&A from selected Debenhams branches countrywide. Abstract printed loose-cut T-shirt £7.99 from Warehouse, 19 Argyll Street, W1, and selected branches. Tan

leather belt, Canvas boots £18.99, Ravel branches. Fuchsia pink and navy cotton blouseon jacket £19.99. Matching miniskirt £9.99. Also emerald/navy in sizes 10-16 from outerwear department in selected branches of C & A. Black/white striped top £15.70 from Fiorucci, 126 King's

Road, SW3. Mesh gloves £2.99. Miss Selfridge, Canvas court shoes £19.99 by Richard Smith from 165 Draycott Avenue, SW3, and Brighton. Photographs by RUSSELL MALKIN. Make-up by JANE CAMPBELL. Hair by DALE BRENNAN for Touch of Class, SE8.

Sarah Clarke breaks up from school this week and exchanges her brown and cream school uniform for her own brand of teenage style. She also switches for the holidays from being a convent school girl to fashion model with the top London Models One agency, after fulfilling a teenage fantasy of being "discovered". Following in the famous footsteps of Twiggy nearly 18 years ago, Sarah's fledgling career started when she was photographed by her local hair salon in South London.

Teenage style has changed totally since the days when "mother wouldn't like it" was a deciding factor in how school age children should dress. Shops now officially start their teenage ranges from 14, but from 12 or younger pubescent girls insist on keeping up with fashion. In this Post-punk era the fact that mother doesn't actively hate it will get most clothes

past parental scrutiny. Short straight skirts and cropped trousers are the newest bottom halves to challenge the inevitable jeans and their ever-changing brand-label loyalties. The very long jacket (borrowed from a brother or bought from a boys' department) is beginning to oust the bomber jacket. And the sweat shirt is still the easiest way to dress for summer, especially wearing two at once, with the old one cut down raggedly over the new or a sleeveless vest top over a plain T-shirt.

Sportswear is the key to the teenage clothes that open mother's wallet. Dungarees, shorts and cropped cotton trousers are all easy to find and acceptable to parents who blanch at seeing their daughters in come-on stretch trousers and shiny disco tops.

The clothes that are most appealing to a mother's view of her pre-teen daughter are those which are chil-

dren's styles that are sized up, rather than trend-setting fashions that are sized down. Marks and Spencer, for example, start their generous adult sizing from a size 10 (although they are now introducing eights in major stores).

Debenhams' Dandelion collection was launched last Autumn aimed specifically at the 11-14 year olds. They found that younger girls wanted the same kind of clothes, so they have sized down and now serve 6-13 year olds in the Dandelion departments nationwide.

C and A launched their Clockhouse collection of up-to-the-moment fashion five years ago. Their "baby" has now grown to take over 50 per cent of C and A's fashions. The snappy clothes reflect C and A's fashion-conscious approach to children's wear, but this is a collection specifically

aimed at a target age group between 14 and 24. Teenagers like riffling through Fiorucci, Miss Selfridge and Chelsea Girl because these stores have all the jazzy accessories and fun bits and pieces that can be bought with a limited weekly allowance.

The real footnote of contention for today's teenagers in shoes. You might think that the present craze for colourful canvas sneakers and Princess Di flaties would be welcomed by the experts. But Judith Kemp of the Foot Health Council says damage to the front of the foot is still prevalent. Girls curl up their toes to keep on ballerinas (or worse still deliberately buy them one size too small which is as bad for growing toes as the winkle pickers and ballettoes into which their mothers crammed their feet).

I was verbally assaulted (as fashion editors so often are) at a party last

week by a mother of a 12 year old who complained that her daughters' feet are already too large to fit into so-called children's sizes. She asked why manufacturers cannot make shoes between the worthy nurse-type uniform shoe and the ultra-fashionable styles.

As our Medical Briefing explained last Friday, pointed toe shoes are the worst offenders because they push the toes out of alignment. Manufacturers reply that they operate in market place and react to the laws of supply and demand.

I suggest to all well-heeled parents that they take their offspring to America, where footwear fit is taken seriously and the law of supply and demand has produced a wide-range of shoe widths and sizes.

And I suggest to a forward-looking retailer, that we look like those shoes brought over here.

Working hard to stay young

Giving a workout to your skin - just as you do to your body - is the newest idea in beauty treatments. Whereas once we were pampered beauties stroking creams into a passive face, now we should expect our skin to work hard at staying younger.

The revolutionary new approach (in beauty terms) is Clinique's Seventh Day Scrub, an abrasive creamy product that contains polyethylene grains to cleanse and stimulate the skin. The idea of using an abrasive to smooth the surface of the body is as old as pumice stone.

Exfoliation - sloughing off of dead skin - is the principle behind many past beauty ideas, including baked clay face masks; the rounded complexion brush and the wire scrubber that the legendary beauty Elinor Glynn claimed to use on her face.

The new advancement of beauty treatments means that the idea of exfoliation and "epiderm-ablation" is packed into product form - for the body as well as the face. Clarins Doux Peeling has that age-old ingredient natural clay, but contains also a formula to stimulate the skin, as well as deep cleansing. Gommage Exfoliant (£9.50) is a new Clarins product for the body, which you can rub into dry skin for maximum friction.

A beauty treatment mask and a body treatment have been added to the Issima range by Guerlain. The mask (£16) is particularly interesting because it is a transparent gel that acts as a skin tautener and can be used under make-up.

An exfoliating cleanser for the body was launched by Ultima II in their CHR range this time last year. The peach coloured cream with tiny abrasive granules is just part of the CHR body Contour System that shows how seriously the leading beauty companies take skin care.



The new sophistication of skincare is echoed in the well-groomed face. Hair and make-up by ELENA for SCHUMI. Suit by Geny from Regine. Photograph by NICK BRIGGS.

Spring used to be the moment when a beauty editor was inundated with announcements of new make-up colours. Now, for every eyeshadow shade card, there are two launches of new treatment products designed to help the skin function better in the present polluted and stressful climate.

This morning, Helena Rubinstein are launching Protection Douce, a compact new system of four products including a cleansing gel that is completely detergent-free and a Delicate Area Cream, designed, as its name suggests, for any of the "difficult" parts like round the eyes, the neck and the bosom.

At the end of the month, Juvena, the Swiss beauty products are being relunched on the British market, emphasizing the scientific and pharmaceutical pro-

gress through the Marguerite Thorpe Health and Beauty Centre in Bournemouth.

Making all kinds of moisturizing creams really effective has been the object of the most recent research. Now this season is Lancôme's Nouril Extrait (£16.95), a 100 per cent natural nourishing product made from vegetable ingredients including jojoba and sesame oils.

Readers who feel strongly about animal suffering may be interested in a Care and Cleanse kit from Queen Cosmetics (130 Wigmore Street, London W1). A large sac to the company will give details of all their cosmetics which are free of all testing on animals.

Allergy and fragrance-free products are also much in demand. Orlane have just brought out their Ligne Pure, which contains no fragrance or alcohol and is a complete skin care range, including a Lotion Apaisante for soothing (£5.75). The French firm of RoC are bringing out new hypo-allergenic Day Creams next month, especially formulated for four different skin types. They have also launched a new range for delicate skins called Sensilis (available from Selfridges, Harrods and selected branches of Boots).

The latest trend is for moisturizers to be as light as possible. Like Vichy's new Les Nutritives creams (£3.95) designed to "feed" your face, but not to plaster it in a heavy cream.

Treating special problem areas with carefully formulated creams is the speciality of the French house Pier Augé, which uses organic substances from seaweed to placenta extracts for creams to combat stretch marks, acne, cellulite or to firm the bust. The delicate and difficult eye area is the target of Erno Laszlo's two new treatment products, which join their useful creamy concealer and their eye make-up remover treatment lotion.

The fact that skin care is now considered as important as cosmetics themselves is summed up in the new Elizabeth Arden Image range, which has been launched under the banner of being a face make-up that is dermatologically, clinically and allergy-tested, with the eye products fragrance-free.

We have come a long way since "Think Pink for Spring"

ess of the Swiss laboratories. Many of the new ranges emphasize the active side of skin-care. Like Guerlain's new Ultra-Sport collection, unveiled this Wednesday. Boots No 7 have just produced an important new range of body and hair care products called No 7 sports.

Science is the keynote of today's products, in spite of the emphasis on sport and health. All the exfoliating creams I discussed are just part of a wider range of skin care creams that act scientifically to encourage cell regeneration.

WEDNESDAY PAGE Tomorrow Wednesday Page meets the mother who hopes to give birth to Step Parents Anonymous.



- an occasional commentary on Important Events - Nursery Tea

Henry's rather busy at the moment. Julian, Well, actually he's tucking in to nursery tea. Oh yes, tea with the children is one of Henry's special treats. Especially at Easter. He gives up practically everything for Lent, you see, and this is his reward.

We go to Fortnum's and buy all their mouth-watering things because only Fortnum's know what makes an English tea-time.

We've got simnel cakes and hot cross buns and special Easter biscuits and fresh-baked bread and blackcurrant preserve and honey and shortbread fingers and Dundee cake and a pot of Royal Blend Tea. And to finish off with there are the most enchanting marzipan bunnies and chickens.

Hello? Hello? We'd better lay two more places. I've a feeling Vanessa and Julian are joining us.

Fortnum & Mason such stuff as dreams are made on Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-734 8040

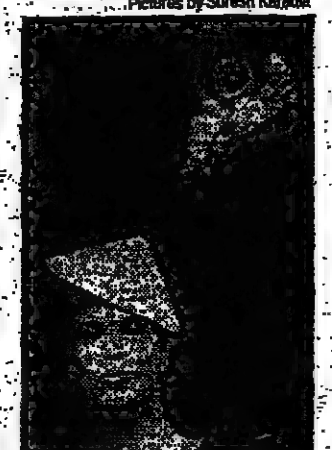


"The recession was last year, now it's the horn of plenty", says-hunter David Shilling whose Spring show last Friday was spilling over with exotic tropical blooms.

Coruscopia cuts-of hand-painted straw - appeared on the little hats (which are getting bigger) and on the big and bold hats, which included a splendid new fondant pale stetson with finger creases on the crown. Upward-curled-of straw appear everywhere.

Colours are sharp, with black, white and lacquer red for cocktail hats perched cheekily like upturned saucers on the head (see above).

David Shilling's high summer straws are painted in an ombre effect, shading from one colour to the next, like hot pink and orange, an elegant lagoon blue dappled like water and fresh mixes of pink and yellow or yellow with red.



THE TIMES DIARY

Tripped up?

Israeli military operations may put paid to Ken Livingstone's plans to spend Easter in the Holy Land. The GLC leader had planned to go on one of his personal fact-finding tours as a member of a delegation from the Labour Committee for Palestine (not recognized by Labour headquarters) led by his chum, Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth council.

Putting it bluntly

The first man to denounce the late Anthony Blunt was Sir Alfred Munnings, president of the Royal Academy from 1944 to 1949. It happened at the 1949 Academy dinner when Munnings had a rare go at making a speech. He started by saying: "Seated on my left is the greatest Englishman of all time. I said to him just now: 'What would you do if you saw Picasso walking ahead of you down Piccadilly?' - and he replied: 'I would kick him up the arse. Alfred.'" (Churchill censored this from later reports, but the tape recording still exists). As the laughter died, Munnings suddenly yelled at the top of his voice: "Blunt, Blunt - you're the one who says he prefers Picasso to Sir Joshua Reynolds." Munnings plainly knew Blunt was some sort of traitor even then.

Déjà lu

Nathan Shamuyarira, the Zimbabwean minister of information who announced the expulsion of *The Guardian's* Nick Worrall as "an enemy of the people" was, ironically, himself *The Guardian's* correspondent in that part of the world 20 years ago. He acted as the paper's stringer in Southern Rhodesia while editing the *African Daily News*, which was shut down by Ian Smith shortly after UDI.

People are plainly tiring of the "situation" situation. Now the British Museum offers an alternative, claiming to have acquired one of the most important Palestinian collections "from an excavated context". This is a quotation from which I would like to see the context taken out.

All change

Sir Peter Parker, in his Dimpleby lecture to be broadcast on BBC 1 this Thursday, reflects how the train takes the strain for over-busy political timetables. "My predecessor had five ministers to deal with in five years," says Parker. "I had five in five years with an election intervening. In the early days of my job when I visited the Great Western, we calculated that there had been 14 ministers of transport in five years. The chief engineer who was present was only the Great Western's fourteenth chief engineer since Brunel in 1836." Parker's argument, of course, is that politicians make too many changes for the country's industrial good, and his talk's title is "Missing our Connections".

Seat of learning

Are you sitting comfortably? Not if you read this column in the lavatory, you're not, according to Ian McClelland and Joan Ward of the University of Technology, Loughborough, as reported in *New Scientist*. They recruited 205 members of the public to test toilet seats, ranking five types in order of preference. Both men and women rated the standard toilet seat as the most uncomfortable, preferring seats longer than currently recommended in British Standards, and particularly those contoured to give more support to thighs and buttocks.

I am pleased to announce the thinking man's Cup Final. The Times has won the First Street Midweek League Cup Final, in which our opponents will be *The Guardian*. The showdown is at the Crystal Palace ground, Selhurst Park on April 28.

Looks fishy...

What do Victorian silver fish servers have in common with a cricket bat, a hat pin, a pair of knitting needles and a baby's potty? The answer, as some who remember my stories from last year about the last four may guess, is that they have all been confiscated at airports as dangerous weapons. The fish servers joined the list at the weekend within the milk-coated novelties. Barbara Taylor Bradford, was taking a plane from Glasgow to Manchester on a tour to promote her best-seller, *Voice of the Heart*. "It isn't that we think you might hijack the plane," the security woman explained, "but someone else might get hold of them and cause a lot of damage."

Euro MPs have decided to go to work on the EC's biggest problem - milk. They have placed a regular daily order for 15 gallons to be delivered to the European Parliament offices in Brussels while they are holding committee meetings there, and quaff it on the job. Controlling milk production is beyond the MEPS' capacity. All 434 of them would have to drink 54,723 gallons a day to keep up with the output.

PHS

Danger, uncurbed cables ahead

by Richard Hoggart

The Government will shortly announce its proposals following the report by Lord Hunt and his committee on the future of cable television. Lord Hunt has said: "Cable cannot be run as if it were another branch of public service broadcasting." The danger is that if public service broadcasting is faced with inadequately regulated cable, then it will be progressively mutilated.

The size of American investment in cable means that operators in the United States are very likely to try to take over entire cable channels in the United Kingdom. In view of the abysmal quality of their cable programming, the cultural consequences of unimpeded access to our channels could prove disastrous.

There are few areas so neglected by public service broadcasters that cable programmers could fruitfully harvest them for their own and the public's advantage. Therefore, cable is bound to cast acquisitive eyes on the major audience-pulling events broadcast nationally by the BBC and ITV. But poaching is not the same as widening choice.

The absence of a need to ensure programme balance in cable programming is justified by Lord Hunt on the ground that the sheer number of new channels will ensure overall balance. All the evidence we have from existing services suggests that no such balance would arise and that the need to make a profit is bound to drive the operators to pastures old, not pastures new.

The Hunt Report and debates in Parliament so far have only added to anxieties about the future of good broadcasting. Indeed, the parliamentary debates have evoked a grim vision of a marriage of virtually total deregulation (in the name of "freedom" and "economic growth") with a narrow, Grundyish, sexual and verbal censorship (in the name of "good taste").

Public service broadcasting, though a

sturdy and variegated growth, needs the right soil and climate. If unregulated cable were allowed to take over the ground of public service broadcasting, the ability of public service broadcasting to continue to function would be seriously at risk. My anxiety comes from the wish to preserve not an elitist status quo but the freedom to search for excellence in all broadcasting forms.

Enthusiasts for cable tend to brush aside as Luddites those who show such concern. I suggest a minimum framework of regulation which would allow both the best development of the new technologies and the continuance of the best in the public service idea.

Cable regulation has to be national. There is no evidence for the Hunt Report's claim that cable can be primarily a local activity and that therefore regulation can be local.

What, then, are the minimum conditions necessary to ensure that the future of television is creative and productive rather than shallow, repetitive and predictable? I think they should be as follows:

Legislation on the expansion of cable should follow, not precede, that wider legislation on telecommunications which is now at the committee stage. It should also be coordinated with current debates about the future of the British film industry. In order in the first place to protect and ultimately to stimulate United Kingdom production, there should be restraints on imported cable material, particularly from the United States. There should be a levy on cable subscriptions, in order to generate funds for the production of films, and for the performing and visual arts.

There should be regulatory and franchising

rules, operated by a separate authority, for the cable providers, to ensure that they comply with professional standards laid down on a national basis. And there should be a separate regulatory and franchising body for the cable operators. The franchises should be for not more than ten years. Longer franchises would put the interests of technology and of profit-making before those of good broadcasting.

Standards of advertising should be compatible with those now administered by the IBA and the Advertising Standards Authority, particularly in regard to content. Sponsorship should be allowed, but controlled.

Cable operators should be restrained from making deals which would preclude substantial sections of the public from access to certain major events. If there were to be a monopoly in any area, there should be guarantees of freedom of expression and diversity of opinion. Suitable provision for community access should be required.

Last, but by no means least, to ensure that a national archive of cable material is developed, there should be a statutory obligation to deposit all new or first-time material transmitted.

Choice and variety are not automatically increased by simple multiplication of channels. A policy of "let a hundred weeds grow and one may come up a rose" risks the concurrent destruction of an existing good, varied and well-matured garden. Diversity is achieved only through thoughtful regulation.

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The author is chairman of the Broadcasting Research Unit. A full version of the Unit's cable recommendations, abridged above, may be obtained from the BRU, 127 Charing Cross Road, London WC2C 0EA.

Romania's refugee: the questions Lord Elton must answer today



Lord Elton fielding for the Government



David Waddington: he took the decision

During the morning of Monday, March 14, Mr Stancu Papusoiu was served with Home Office form IS 92 ordering him to report with his baggage the following Saturday at Heathrow Airport, Terminal Two, for the 12.50 pm Romanian Airways direct flight to Bucharest. According to his friend Miss Shan Rees, who was teaching him English at Lambeth Institute, he replied that he would never set foot in Romania alive, whereupon he was invited to return to the immigration office, Isis House in Southwark Street, where a last-ditch telephone call would be made to the Home Office in the hope of getting a postponement.

Miss Rees went with him to Isis House at three o'clock that afternoon. They spent a few minutes in the waiting room. Then three immigration officers came into the room and told Mr Papusoiu through the police interpreter that, instead of being postponed, his removal had been brought forward. There are only two direct flights to Bucharest a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, both by Romanian Airways. Mr Papusoiu was now booked on the Wednesday flight, they said, and would spend the two intervening nights at Tower Bridge police station and Ashford remand centre.

"It was a complete shock. I felt as if I had betrayed him," says Miss Rees, who remembers him, as do the rest of the Lambeth Institute staff, as "a nice, gentle man with nowhere to go and no one to talk to". Two policemen came into the waiting room, took away his cigarette and handcuffed him. When she protested, they agreed that this was not usual procedure but was being done because they were afraid he might kill himself or "go to ground".

When she asked about the date of his removal being brought forward, an officer replied: "He's got to go back so he might as well be put out of his agony." He was then led away shouting her name "Shan! Shan! Shan!" She was allowed to see him once again for 10 minutes that evening in the police station. As she left his cell, she noticed that there was a blackboard on the door and chalked on it were the words "escaper, suicidal".

This evening the Government will have its first chance to answer some of the dozen or so unresolved questions surrounding this bizarre matter.

In the House of Lords, there will be a debate, as opposed to a question-and-answer session, entirely devoted to Mr Papusoiu. Faced with a media assault on the Minister of State, Mr David Waddington, hardly paralleled in recent years, the Home Office will

spend today instructing Lord Elton, their other Minister of State, who had no part in the controversial decision, in the entirety of their argument, which hitherto has emerged only drop by drop in newspaper articles and House of Commons question time.

They will say - and no doubt they are right - that there were discrepancies in Mr Papusoiu's story. Lionel Bloch, a solicitor who acts in many political asylum cases, says that he has heard ever known a refugee who did not contradict himself. The disorientation and loneliness, the feeling of destitution after weeks of confinement in a strange land, the fear of being forced to return to the tender mercies of the original persecutors - it all combines to confuse a refugee, especially one who is not articulate and speaks only one little-known language. If Mr

Papusoiu's story were consistent from beginning to end, that would indeed be suspicious. They have said that he was not a genuine refugee, a statement taken by some to mean that he was a criminal or a communist spy. To their credit, they have refuted this suggestion, but they insist that merely finding life unacceptable under the communist regime does not constitute "membership of a particular social group or political opinion" under the United Nations convention. His main motive, they concluded, was to improve his standard of living. And Britain cannot accommodate all those people, perhaps billions, who merely want to increase their wages.

His previous desperate attempts to leave Romania did not help his case. Amnesty International's secretary-general Thomas Hammarberg

wrote to Mr Waddington that the man's persistence in the face of punishment surely indicated "that his motives were unlikely to have been merely economic". Amnesty released Mr Waddington in this sense the day before Mr Papusoiu's removal, without avail, since the minister had already concluded that Romania's anti-emigration laws, while deplorable, do not in themselves constitute persecution.

This is where he made his cardinal error, one which his fellow-minister Lord Elton may feel bound to correct this evening.

These Romanian laws do constitute persecution, since they violate Article 13 of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 12 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, both of which proclaim the citizen's basic right to leave his own country. Before today is out, the Home Office will be asked to accept that Mr Papusoiu committed a political offence when he left Romania illegally, that he is liable to persecution as well as prosecution as a result of his decision to remove him.

They will insist too that their policy towards refugees is generous. This used to be true, but it is no longer the case where east Europeans are concerned. Out of 642 applications last year only 73 were accepted. They will say that Britain risks being swamped with fugitives from the Soviet Union and Romania, where the laws are strictest. This is nonsense. The total number of applications from these two countries last year was 32. And never before, I think, since Britain's love affair with Stalin ended in 1943, has a Soviet or Romanian citizen been forcibly repatriated.

There remains one practical question. Mr Papusoiu was banded out of Britain so quickly that he had no time to collect his belongings. They consist of a pair of trousers, a pair of shoes, some postcards and a mouth organ. On the evening after he left they were still in his room at the YMCA hostel in Stockwell. I hope that the Home Office will arrange with the Foreign Office for them to be sent on to him in Bucharest, or wherever he now is.

This is all that Britain can now do, I suppose, to help this first victim of the Home Office's new "Yalta Agreement" to detain and forcibly return fugitives from neo-Stalinist dictatorship.

Nicholas Bethell

The author is chairman of the European Parliament's human rights group.

Roger Scruton

Dead? I demand a second opinion

The purpose of medicine is to restore the patient to normality, in so far as it lies within our power. "Normality" is a contested notion, and one that generates many of the doubts and dilemmas which face the doctor. But there is another idea which lies concealed within medical practice, and which causes an equal confusion: the idea of destiny. Many things, including death, are imposed upon us not by human choice, but by human destiny. It is only on the assumption, of this destiny that a doctor can limit his obligations, and until his obligations are limited, they cannot be fulfilled.

It is our destiny to die. Medicine may postpone or alleviate the process, but it cannot abolish it. Nor would it be right to try. People have sometimes hoped for permanence in this world: but a modicum of imagination suggests that earthly permanence is incompatible with our happiness. Our most valuable emotions - love, loyalty, and friendship - are predicated upon the fact of death. Take away mortality, and you take away the perspective from which we view one another, and the shared fragility from which our affections spring. The immortal organism does not escape tragedy; but in his joyless pleasures he can be neither pitied nor consoled, and his tragedy lies outside the reach of human compassion. If his survival could be guaranteed by an elixir, then he might endure in the joyless manner of a Makropoulos. But it is certain that no doctor would feel obliged to assist him.

Nor should any doctor feel that he has some obligation to fight against the human condition, or to postpone death beyond the point where nature ceases to resist it. The only obligation lies with the patient: to accept his destiny, and cheerfully to console his friends. Modern medicine creates a powerful fantasy - the fantasy that death may be indefinitely postponed. Patients therefore tend to shift the obligation on to the doctor: instead of preparing themselves for death, they cry out for life, and the doctor is driven to devise ever more complex ways of satisfying them, all the time aware of the futility and irrationality of their demand.

The heart-transplant is a vivid and gruesome reminder of this. How easy it proves, to persuade a doctor that the shrine of the dead body should be violated, for the sake of a few months of uncertain persistence in the living. The public applauds the activity, offering all its support and interest, as though promised a

final victory over death. I am sure that I am not alone in sensing a certain blasphemy in this public interest - a renunciation of the duty to accept an irrational hope which is neither possible nor desirable to fulfill.

Surely we have come up against the natural boundary drawn by our condition, and there is something futile and impious in the attempt to pass beyond it. And is there not something morally questionable in devoting scarce medical resources on such a scale to an activity which is both uncertain in its benefits, and founded in a meddlesome refusal of our lot?

Attitudes to death go hand in hand with attitudes to sex. And it is in the sphere of sex that some of the greatest medical confusions have arisen. I refer in particular to the "sex change" - again, an operation which has exhilarated the public, with its implication that sexuality is an elaborate accident, which can be tailored to the individual need.

A person's sexuality is no longer regarded as part of his essence. It has become an attribute, which he might change as he changes his clothes. The possibility of thinking in such a way shows a deep change in perception. The obligation to accept one's sex has dwindled, in the same way as the obligation to accept one's death. Consequently, people call upon doctors to help them, demanding painful, expensive and dangerous operations, whose moral effects cannot really be envisaged in advance, and whose premise is a kind of delusion which, however it might arouse our compassion, ought not to inspire our complicity. No doubt the time is not far distant when sex-change operations will be obtainable on the National Health, granted on the advice of "experts" able to discern the "real" gender identity of the soul seated within each human envelope. And no doubt many arguments will be put forward for the "compassionate" nature of this move.

But as with every attempt to undermine our power to accept our destiny, the consequences are felt, not by the patient only, but by the whole community. We are forced to revise our perceptions of sexuality, in a direction which in fact deprives us of our most necessary emotions. Thus, by increasing our control over the human body, there comes a point where we lose familiarity with the human soul.

The author is editor of *The Salisbury Review*.

Geoffrey Smith

Who's for dual control of cruise?

Shortly after Easter the House of Commons will be debating whether there should be some kind of dual key arrangement to ensure that cruise missiles sited in this country could never be fired without British consent. This will be one of those very embarrassing occasions for a government when it is under pressure not only from the opposing parties but also from its own backbenchers.

A few weeks ago Mr Alan Clark, the Conservative MP for Plymouth, Sutton, had obtained the signatures of more than 30 of his colleagues, from both the left and right of the party, for a motion calling for joint Anglo-American control of theatre nuclear weapons based in this country. He was dissuaded from putting the motion down on the order paper of the House of Commons by the critical reaction of a meeting of the Conservative 1922 Committee. But an amendment along these lines will be put forward if the Government tables a substantive resolution for the forthcoming Commons debate; and even if the debate takes place simply on a motion for the adjournment - which would preclude the possibility of any amendment - the group, which is believed now to number something like 50 members, will certainly make its views known.

The Conservative case for dual key is based on two principal propositions: that it is a proper safeguard for Britain, as a sovereign power, to demand for weapons of such horrific consequence based on its soil, and that the removal of anxiety that they could be fired without British agreement would dissolve much of the public opposition to the siting of cruise missiles here.

This second point is a strong one. There would probably no longer be a majority against cruise if a dual key arrangement were adopted. As the United States offered this to Britain at an earlier stage, it might be thought that all that is needed in the Commons debate is for Mr Thatcher and Mr Heseltine to deploy their oratorical skills so as to accept the proposal without losing face. Would this not be a prudent means of avoiding trouble in the House and winning support in the country?

The issue is not so simple. In the first place, the political pressure on the Government is not quite so strong as it may seem. The debate appears more likely to be held on a motion for the adjournment, in which case there would be no opportunity for a vote on the substance of the question. Even if it is more than a mere resolution, it is most unlikely that the Government would be defeated.

The Conservative critics are not intending at the moment to go so far as to vote against the Government.

If the leaders were to change their minds, it is hard to believe that they would get most of their troops into the opposite division lobby with them: the Whips would be warning them strongly against giving comfort to Labour on what is expected to be a major electoral issue. In any case, although the Liberals, Social Democrats and some Ulster Unionists would vote against the Government, it is highly improbable that Labour members would vote solidly in favour of dual key, whatever the Shadow Cabinet might recommend: they would not wish to make cruise missiles more acceptable to the voters.

So the worst that the Conservative critics will be able to do is to inflict embarrassment on the Government. That would be bad enough, of course, on such a sensitive topic. So why should the Government not simply concede the point? One answer is that it is given in cost. If a dual key system were to cost £1,000m that would either put an extra burden on public expenditure or weaken Britain's overall defence capability by diverting resources that could be profitably spent elsewhere.

But there are some advisers, whose belief in adequate nuclear defence is beyond question, who are not persuaded that the cost would have to be so high. It might be possible to work out something more cheaply with the Americans, perhaps along the lines of the arrangement for the Thor missile some 25 years ago, in under which Britain controlled the missiles while the Americans controlled the warheads. Until the possibilities have been explored it is hard to accept cost as a conclusive objection.

The diplomatic obstacles are more formidable. If Britain had a dual key, then, for example, the Germans would have to have nuclear weapons under their control, but it might strengthen the opposition to the new missiles there if their allies were being given a finger on the safety catch while they were not. At the very least it would be a complicating factor at a delicate time.

That again would not be a conclusive objection if British security depended upon dual key. But can one imagine that the United States would be willing to put New York at risk by firing a nuclear missile in defence of Britain? A dual key system would simply confirm existing nuclear realities.

I do not believe that on present evidence it would be worth the risk to allied cohesion. But if ministers wish to have public opinion behind them they would be unwise to try to sweep aside their critics. They should meet a serious case with reasoned argument.

Paul Pickering



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IS THIS THE RECOVERY?

The latest herald of economic recovery should be treated with caution, but not with scepticism. The Confederation of British Industry has been blamed in the past for being too gloomy. It was also more reliable than ministers, though gloomy prophecies tend to be self-fulfilling. Now the CBI's members, who range from manufacture, big and small, to retailing and even finance, see widespread recovery in demand and output. That may itself encourage recovery by helping to build the confidence of firms and consumers.

Unlike ministers, who seized at straws, the CBI's leaders have waited a second month to confirm a sharp upward break in members' expectations. And it is a sharp break. In just two months, a third of the sample polled has shifted its opinion, reporting better order books, particularly for exports. And these opinions can be backed up with recent statistics of what is actually happening: many more new cars being bought, new houses started. The index of industrial production, with or without oil rose, albeit from low levels in both December and January, the two latest months for which figures are available.

Economic conditions are much more conducive to sustained progress than before. Last year the world economy was shrinking. Now most major countries expect an upturn; sharp, rapid, if uncertain in the United States; slower, later but more sure in Japan and Germany.

any. At home, the final downward twist last autumn cut stocks of goods in the shops well below normal. Stocks of fuel and materials at the factories sank to an historically low level compared with even the depressed state of output. That is a traditional precursor of the upturn of an economic cycle, because shops and firms must eventually order more unless they expect sales to worsen, even faster. That is certainly not true today.

Unfortunately, the greatest single stimulus to industry has come from the foreign exchanges. Firms now have the devaluation many wanted, even if the Chancellor did not. The Government has rightly however chosen to ignore the fall in sterling rather than resort to higher interest rates, which would probably stop any recovery in its tracks at this early stage. Makers of bulk products like chemicals have seen an instant boost to sales. Rising orders elsewhere should bring a rising rate of economic growth next year. But that is far from ideal. Sterling at yesterday's record low of \$1.45 may be as temporary as the \$2.40 pound. It is good for output today, but not something industrialists can bank on for the future, even if the new low rate against the German mark has a more permanent air. It could stimulate the sort of recovery that soaks up excess capacity, but does not encourage investment in expansion for the future.

That is one cause for caution. There are others. Though Washington talks of rapid growth this year as if recession were a thing of the past, America's recovery has yet to pass the threshold of credibility. Federal deficits and money growth might still dictate higher interest rates and in any case threaten to keep the cost of money far too high to sustain the strong recovery the world economy desperately needs.

Most of all, we should not expect too much of this upturn. It will not solve our economic problems. If it succeeds, our output might rise a little over two per cent this year and perhaps three per cent next. That is sustainable, if productivity continues to rise and labour markets remain flexible. But it will only bring total output back to 1979 levels next year or, if we take out the subsequent rise in oil production, by the end of 1985. Unemployment will probably edge up again this year and only stabilize next. It will not go away.

For the future, Britain is still expecting a lower growth rate than other major countries even though our recession is deeper and has lasted longer. It is good to remember that more spectacular recoveries in the thirties petered out, leaving the war to bring the boom and end unemployment. Today's likely upturn in trade is a hard-earned reward. It can be sound, a platform on which to build. But it should not lead anyone to think the depression is over.

THE ALLIANCE SHOULD CHOOSE

The question of who should lead the Alliance is to be raised at the joint meeting tomorrow of all Liberal and Social Democratic MPs. It is most unlikely to be settled there and then, but the point is approaching at which the Alliance is liable to suffer progressively if it does not reach a decision. To go into an election without a Prime Minister-designate as the Alliance prefers to put it, would be poor political tactics. Leaders of the two parties would be barred throughout the campaign to say something on the question, preferably contradicting each other, and nobody would pay much attention to anything they said on any other topic.

To delay a decision for too long now would equally be clumsy tactics. Up to now it has probably been an advantage to have two leaders, just as it was a benefit for the SDP in its early days to have the Gang of Four with equal status. But it is becoming unnecessarily hard for the Alliance to make news on anything else except the choice between Mr Jenkins and Mr Steel; and the longer the wait the more it will seem that whoever is finally chosen has no more than the reluctant backing of the other party.

But the choice becomes more difficult to make after the disappointment of Darlington. This ought not to be because Mr Jenkins is thought to have performed badly there himself. He did not. He brought the political weight that was otherwise too little apparent in the campaign. But when the Social Democrats lose contests that they were thought capable of

winning, as at Darlington, and the Liberals win by-elections that they were expected to lose, as at Bermondsey, the impression of the Liberals as the senior partners must be strengthened.

Moreover, the political circumstances in which the Alliance must fight after Darlington are not those in which Mr Jenkins's talents can be displayed to best effect. He is essentially a man of government. The more plausibly it can be claimed that the Alliance may be in office after the election - might even itself form the government - the more relevant do his experience and expertise become. He makes the thought of an Alliance administration seem more credible. That is why until very recently it was generally accepted, not least by Mr Steel himself, that Mr Jenkins would be proclaimed in due course as Prime Minister-designate.

But it is no less evident that Mr Steel would be more popular as an electoral campaigner, especially if the Alliance were no longer regarded as seriously challenging to form a government. That is what is now worrying so many Liberals. Whatever they might say in public, they do not believe that they are going to provide the next Prime Minister. They see the task for the Alliance now as being to establish as strong a bridgehead as possible in the next Parliament, and they are convinced that Mr Steel is better equipped for this role.

They are right, but they would be extremely unwise to press their case too hard. It would be

of value for the Alliance to go into battle under the banner of the leader whose talents are best suited to the task in hand. But it is much more important for Liberals and Social Democrats to go united into battle. If there is to be a change in the expectation that the Prime Minister-designate is to be Mr Jenkins then the initiative ought to come from the Social Democrats. The change would also have to be brought about in such a way as not to give the impression that the Alliance had given up hope of fighting the election as equal contenders for power with the Conservatives and Labour - an impression which it would be hard to conceal as it would in fact be the truth.

If the Social Democrats are reluctant to accept Mr Steel, it would be better for the Alliance to agree on Mr Jenkins as Prime Minister-designate with Mr Steel as chairman of the campaign committee - in the full expectation that Mr Steel would then play the more prominent part in the election because how the Alliance was conducting the campaign would matter more than what a potential Alliance Prime Minister might do if he were ever to hold that office. This would leave open the question as to who would play the more prominent part in the negotiations that would follow if there were a hung Parliament. But that would depend upon whether there were more Liberals or Social Democrats in that Parliament. The Alliance should make its choice in the near future without being under any illusion that it is taking a decision of lasting consequence.

SIR NORMAN PLAYS THE SWEEPER

Like an aging full-back drafted in towards the end of a poor season, Sir Norman Chester has been brought on by the Football League to play the sweeper in a losing game. Professional soccer's financial woes stem, ultimately, from the unwillingness of players and directors to accept that a spectator sport once at the hub of the nation's popular culture must adjust to a position as one of a jostling number of entertainments, live and filmed. In the eventual adjustment the keystone must be that on-field sportsmanship which alone can guarantee the quality of performance. But the bricks - of club direction, the management of grounds and the organization of leagues - will have to be more professionally made than at present. The Football League has not yet come to terms with latter-day sports professionalism; so, given Sir Norman's limited brief, it was perhaps inevitable that his should turn out to be a holding operation, an attempt to quieten the discontent of the major clubs who want a bigger share of declining revenues.

Some commentators like to fashion an analogy between the state of soccer and that of the nation. There is in the report an occasional tendency to revel in the apparent connexion between the declining economy, social discontents and a crisis in the

national sport. Such Schaden freude is lazy. There are many practical measures that could be taken to help all clubs adapt to lower attendances, in addition to league re-organization. Why do matches have to begin at three o'clock on a Saturday afternoon? Why do directors refuse to apply to their clubs the commercial acumen that they use everyday in their business dealings? Why is the asset value of grounds often ignored?

Changes along these lines are certainly occurring, notably among the top clubs. What we miss from Sir Norman is a verbal push to these "market" trends. The results of full-blooded commercialization may occasionally be harsh; for they will include more bankrupt clubs, lower rewards for some players, the absence of televised football (for a salutary period). Too many clubs still do not face up to the lessons of red ink on the balance sheet and cut their coats accordingly; too many are still fixated by the movement of their turnstiles as the only respectable source of revenue.

Sir Norman is an old corporate state warrior but he can have encountered few organizations more reluctant to change than the Football League. His recommendations for the alteration of the voting majority - a change from three quarters to three fifths - would strike a small

blow for flexibility. All his recommendations indeed depend on the League's recognition that soccer's future depends on radical adjustment. Yet the protection given by the League's structure to the smaller clubs should not lightly be abandoned even within the reformed pattern of divisions that Sir Norman suggests. Sir Norman goes for a proposal on gate receipts which would undoubtedly benefit the larger clubs by allowing them the full "take" from home matches; it would be a pity if admirable but smaller outfits such as Coventry City or Ipswich suffered a large loss of income as a result.

Adjusting to the straitened circumstances of the 1980s should not be a pretext for hell-for-leather greed contained in some of the proposals for a "super league", of which Sir Norman is rightly sceptical. The idea of a constant round of Liverpool versus Manchester United matches is not compelling. Sir Norman is none the less asking an unknown number of smaller, third and fourth division clubs to sign warrants recognizing their diminished position. When the League managers meet to consider his report, the willingness of the clubs collectively and severally to see where the common good lies will be tested. The quality of the game depends on them.

Civil defence called into question

From Mr Martin Brett

Sir, It is sad that Professor Vincent ("Putting the bomb under the Blagovest", March 23) in his nostalgic reference to the provision of free Anderson shelters at the start of the 1939-45 war, should display such ignorance about the nature and scale of physical and biological effects of present-day nuclear weapons compared with the bombs of those days of the "Blitz".

As an academic historian, surely he is aware of the continuous stream of warnings of the irrevocable consequences of nuclear war for mankind that have come from such international figures as Einstein, Mountbatten, Carver, Zuckerman, Kennan and many others over the years - no more mouthpieces of CND than was Raymond Briggs.

The Scientific Committee of the British Medical Association has reported its findings supporting those warnings after 18 months of study. Whatever his personal opinion of CND may be, can he not be sufficiently detached to allow that they, too, may share this common concern for the future of mankind and that some, if not all, of what they are saying may be true?

The nuclear arms race must now be recognised as the greatest common enemy of mankind. The risks of nuclear war will never be reduced until the collective level of thought and imagination is sufficiently raised to overcome party political and other prejudices.

Professor Vincent's article has done nothing to help achieve this. Yours faithfully, MARTIN BRETT, 10 Goodover House, 305 Southampton Row, WC1, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton and others

Sir, The letter from the President of the National Council for Civil Defence and others (March 24) is a timely reminder of the dangers of assuming that should war be forced on us, it will be of one sort only. As Lord Renton points out, to concentrate attention on a nuclear holocaust (which is probably the least likely form of attack) can only lead to neglect of preparation to deal with other forms of attack.

It was a similar concern for the vulnerability of the United Kingdom to conventional attack by small Soviet raiding forces that led us to advocate the setting up by the Government of a volunteer Home Defence Force (report, March 8).

The over-whelming superiority of the Soviet Union in non-nuclear forces allows them a wide range of options and one of the most tempting must be to cause disruption in the United Kingdom before vital reinforcements can arrive from the United States.

We believe it is essential to close this option and that the defence of the United Kingdom, which is vital to us all, must be given higher priority than it receives at present.

Our proposal for a nationwide Home Defence Force is one way of achieving this at a modest cost. Perhaps your readers have other suggestions.

Yours etc. HILL-NORTON, ANTHONY FARRAR-HOCKLEY, FREDERICK SOWREY, DAVID WILLS, Defence Begins at Home, Victoria House, 305 Southampton Row, WC1, March 25.

Nuclear arms balance

From Lord Jenkins of Putney

Sir, Professor Freedman (feature, March 19) purports to explain the difficulties of the Geneva discussions in terms of Soviet intransigence and duplicity. His complicated calculations conclude that if figures are confined to certain Soviet and American carriers the Russians have the edge even on their own terms. He then says that "the final Soviet card is to include British and French nuclear forces".

But Professor Freedman must know that this is not some negotiating ploy but the permanent and essential basis of Soviet negotiations. Everyone who has ever discussed nuclear matters with any Soviet representative knows that they always say that they must count all the nukes targeted against them. They only discuss specific weapon systems at the insistence of the West which has consistently refused Soviet pleas for an all-over discussion.

Professor Freedman must also

know that if the count is done on the basis of the total nuclear fire-power deployed by East and West the Soviets may not have equality, let alone preponderance. Not that this really matters for the lunacy overriding the entire scene is that each side can virtually destroy the other with only a part of its total fire-power.

It is now widely accepted in Europe that the reluctance to reach agreement is on the side of the United States and when this is seen in your letter columns by such cold warriors as Lord Mayhew (March 19) it is really too late for Professor Freedman to present the USSR as the villain of Geneva.

Even a Reagan-Andropov summit will not solve the problem unless it leads to realistic all-systems discussions in which the United States Government is no longer permitted to hold Europe in increasing nuclear jeopardy.

Sincerely, HUGH JENKINS, House of Lords, March 21.

Rights in Bangladesh

From Professor Bernard Williams, FBA, and others

Sir, As members of the academic community we are disturbed by reports of recent events at the universities and other educational establishments in Bangladesh, according to which police, paramilitary forces and the army were used to repress student protests and to intimidate members of the academic staff.

We cannot but register our shock and indignation that once again a military regime could consider it permissible to use force against members of the academic community in Bangladesh, violating human rights and civil liberties. This is all the more remarkable since the liberation struggle and the associated language movement in Bangladesh did impress on the international community the desire of the vast majority of Bangladeshis to realise a secular and democratic form of government.

A report by Amnesty International cites an official statement that 310 people are still being detained, while their names and total numbers are unknown. The report goes on to say that "Amnesty International is concerned at grave allegations of ill-treatment and torture of the detainees in army custody, as well as the fact that many detainees' families have not been allowed to see them and that the place of detention of some detainees has still not officially been disclosed."

We are seriously concerned at these events and ask for the immediate release of all students or their transfer to civilian custody to prevent further abuses in military detention. This would be a step towards a return to democracy and constitutional government, embodying respect for human rights and

civil liberties, which are the stated intentions of the present Government.

Yours sincerely, BERNARD WILLIAMS, NICHOLAS KALDOR, RICHARD KAHN, ROBERT NIELD, JOHN EATWELL, AJIT SINGH, AUSTIN ROBINSON, As from 14 St Peter's House, 46 Regent Square, WC1, March 18.

Deported Romanian

From Mr Anton Logoreci

Sir, Your excellent leader (March 19) on the "heartless deportation" of the Romanian refugee, Stancu Papusoiu, from Britain refers to the need for giving special consideration to citizens coming here from particularly onerous regimes. The trouble, however, is that because of the abuse of any permanent Western correspondents in Romania and its Government's huge propaganda campaign depicting President Ceausescu as a great statesman who is opposed to Moscow's foreign policy, many people in this country are unaware (and those who are want to forget) that the Romanian regime is the harshest and most repressive in eastern Europe, barring the Albanian regime.

Amnesty International has in recent years reported the existence of so-called "corrective labour" centres and psychiatric institutions for dealing with critics of the regime. Complaints of criticisms of any kind, branded as "anti-state propaganda", can land one in prison for anything from five to 15 years.

Yours sincerely, ANTON LOGORECI, 18 Disraeli Gardens, Fave Park Road, SW15, March 20.

Tory selection process

From Mr W. A. Beckett Terrell

Sir, May I express a point of view as the chairman of the steering committee of a Conservative Association for a new constituency which has recently selected its parliamentary candidate? The root of present difficulties is an unwillingness to accept that the selection process, when properly carried out, is a democratic one. Once this view is, however, accepted it follows that the other elements of a democratic election are also entitled to be present, including the rights to canvass for votes and to have secret ballots.

A candidate who cannot win, in a full democratic selection process, the support of his association is not the strongest candidate to put before the electorate. But to do this properly he must be free to make himself as widely known as possible to his Conservative electorate. It appears to me that there is a confusion in the logic which equates selection by a Conservative association with an application for a fellowship of All Souls or a position in the Civil Service. In the latter cases selection needs clearly to be

based on record and merit and not on personal influence. But for a parliamentary candidate an ability to influence votes *sine qua non* and there is no more effective and democratic way of doing this than by canvassing the Conservative electorate, who may at the final stages be the whole membership and are themselves the elected representatives of the Conservative voters.

It is equally, of course, an essential ingredient of such a procedure that the votes cast at each stage are cast in secret ballot.

I do not believe that we need the excess of the American primary system. But democratic votes are there to be won and in a democratic selection process, as in other elections, they will be won by effective campaigning by an effective leader. They will not be won by being treated as unapproachable. Perhaps we have to accept that trusting the people also means trusting the Conservative Party membership. Yours faithfully, W. A. BECKETT TERRELL, Park Cottage, Reddenham, Andover, Hampshire.

Widening scope for school technology

From Mr G. M. A. Harrison

Sir, Nobody could disagree with the general tenor of your recent reports (March 21, 22, 23) on microcomputing in schools, that more resources and firmer leadership are needed. You reinforce the message in your leading article (March 23) and your support is very welcome. But my own experience tells me that the microelectronics education movement is much more buoyant and accelerating more quickly than the rather negative comments of some of Lucy Hodges's consultants seem to suggest. A few observations:

All my own secondary schools are very close to the desirable target of 10 micros you mention. It is true that the UK is only on the edge of an education software revolution, but authors and publishers know it is coming and already our education software is so well known to be a world leader that action is in hand to sell it in export markets abroad.

More teachers than is supposed understand that microcomputing is an enabling technology in teaching and learning right across the curriculum, and an instrument for enlarging intelligence and creative imagination. Moreover, educators are now pressing beyond mere microelectronics and introducing students to the larger concerns of information technology - e.g. the uses and management of information, control technology, computer-aided design, telecommunications.

These statements do nothing to diminish your call for yet more vigorous action. And so I am happy to tell you that the education officers of the country have already taken up the challenge. The Society of Education Officers is now refining a strategy which will carry an urgent stimulus for development of IT (information technology) in education systematically to all levels and aspects of the public education service.

We see this as a necessary foundation, in the most modern terms, for the generation of those characteristics of capability, personal autonomy and systems competence that all in Britain these days except for a few unregenerate Bourgeois-like defenders of a lapsed and inadequate view of culture regard as essential components in the country's future economic effectiveness. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL HARRISON, Chief Education Officer, City of Sheffield, PO Box No 67, Leopold Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, March 24.

From Mr A. J. Abbott

Sir, Your leader of March 23 highlights the need for "computer classrooms" in schools where entire classes of pupils may gain hands-on experience and use computers, not as substitutes for, but supplements to, good conventional teaching. With classes in secondary schools often numbering 30 or more, this

implies probably 15 microcomputers each serving a pair of pupils. The cost of this - hardware, software and other associated costs - is obviously substantial and causes most, if not all, authorities to balk at the implications of adopting this as policy.

There is, however, a possible solution to this that can certainly be applied in many urban areas where population densities are high. Last summer the Open Terminal Computer Centre was established in Stevenage containing amongst other things, just such a classroom with a network of 15 British-made microcomputers, each of a sizeable (64K byte) memory capacity. The centre is used during the school day by the pupils of three secondary schools, all of whom are within walking distance of the centre. Lessons in subjects as diverse as history and physics are now taught on an occasional basis to pupils from 11 years of age and upwards with the intention of making all pupils in the three schools familiar with microcomputer technology by the age of 14.

This is but part of the centre's purpose; during the evening the same machines, and much of the software, are used for a variety of training purposes for the greater community of the town. At week-ends and during the holidays the centre is mounting specialised courses for other interested groups. These community courses are all mounted on a commercial basis. The centre was set up as a bold co-operative venture between the schools and the borough council, with additional funding from local industries and commerce; its ongoing development now seems assured because of its commercial success. The benefit from a heavy capital expenditure is indeed being shared most profitably across a wide spectrum of the community.

Yours sincerely, A. J. ABBOTT, Headmaster, Allyn's School, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, March 25.

From Mr J. G. Biles

Sir, In 1934, at the age of 11 years, I left a junior school with children who were more literate than many who, today, have completed their education.

Our teacher had a class of 50 and took all subjects, his only resources being a profound knowledge of his own language and limited numbers of well thumbed books. In the absence of suitable literature in our homes we were required to read the newspapers, in which typographical errors were rare, and whose English was impeccable.

Surely there is a lesson to be learned here. Yours faithfully, J. G. BILES, Tresnor, Craithole, Torpoint, Cornwall, March 22.

Proper use of loans

From Lord Airlie

Sir, The international banking community have been obliged to reschedule the immense debts of several Latin American countries in order to prevent default.

It is necessary and indeed reasonable to do this, provided that the funds made available are used to help resolve the underlying economic problems of those countries.

It seems neither necessary nor reasonable that these funds should be used to purchase armaments. The

Nato governments should make every effort to ensure that the funds provided by their banking communities are accompanied by assurances that not one penny (or franc) will be spent on the purchase of arms which could be used for aggressive purposes.

Perhaps this is a matter which could usefully be discussed at the economic summit meeting at Williamsburg in May. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, AIRLIE, 5 Swan Walk, SW3, March 21.

Male midwives

From Dr R. Graham-Brown

Sir, Unfortunately for Major Proctor (March 24) the term "accoucheur" is indeed in use, and it is applied to doctors, especially GPs, who undertake deliveries. Many such doctors call themselves "physician, surgeon and accoucheur". It would, I think, be inappropriate and confusing to transfer the term to non-medically qualified personnel.

I agree with Miss Morris (March 24) that the name midwife is perfectly adequate. It is clearly understood by all concerned and has the major advantage of being English.

Yours faithfully, ROBIN GRAHAM-BROWN, The Leicester Royal Infirmary, Leicester, March 24.

Where charities begin

From the Reverend Dr Kenneth Slack

Sir, Probably rightly, you judge that it is best for the High Court to decide whether the Charity Commissioners are right or wrong about the Moonies (leader, March 21). The cost of this procedure presents no problem to the Attorney General.

But what of a charity which is as convinced as the Attorney General that the commissioners are wrong in a particular judgment? Few could reasonably face the cost of such a procedure. Indeed I understand that there is some doubt whether use of charitable funds for an appeal to the court from a decision of the commissioners is legal.

Perhaps the salutary experience of the Attorney General will move him to bring forward legislation to implement the recommendation of the Goodman committee that a simple, cheaper procedure of appeal be established. He may even be moved drastically to reexamine the role of a body which combines administrative and judicial elements in a way more reminiscent of the Star Chamber than of today's concept of natural justice. Yours faithfully, KENNETH SLACK, The Manor, Allen Street, Kensington, W8.

No stitch in time

From Mr T. P. Goodman

Sir, I am an ungrateful recipient of the Chancellor's largesse. My small company exports knitwear and sales this year are well ahead of last.

We have now financed the expansion "in house" by using the whole of last year's profits to lay in the stock. However, corporation tax has taken 40 per cent of this. I must now borrow to fund this expansion, and the interest payable on this will slow our rate of growth and keep me awake at nights.

Why cannot the Chancellor exempt from corporation tax liability, upon application, small companies with pretax profits of, say, £50,000 or less, provided they can evidence the reinvestment of these moneys into funding sales growth?

Tyres are sold by tycoons that the first £50,000 was the worst. I believe them. Yours faithfully, T. P. GOODMAN, Chairman, Inverall Knitwear Ltd, Shavehough Loan, Alva, Clackmannanshire, March 16.

Collectors' items

From Mr R. F. Williams

Sir, I looked in vain for the missing "c" in your article on March 16 ("The Inland Revenue is planning to include some swingeing new legislation in the Finance Bill...") but I need not have worried, as it turned up in Saturday's edition (March 19), where you reported a proposal "to impose nature conservation orders on a Somerset bird refuge".

It seems an awful lot of trouble for just one bird, especially as he is presumably fleeing from his homeland. My copy of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 does not seem to cover the problem, but perhaps your readers can shed some light on the matter.

Yours in flight, RAY WILLIAMS, Cherry Lodge, Greenmore, Woodcote, Near Reading, Berkshire, March 20.

THE ARTS

Galleries

A journey from education to sheer delight

Pattern and Design/
Personal ChoiceHenry Cole Wing, Victoria
and Albert Museum

There is a section of the new Henry Cole Wing at the Victoria and Albert Museum called "The Tip of the Iceberg". Actually it is at the base of the iceberg, being located neatly under the central stack of bulk storage spaces, but we know what they mean. And, anyway, the opening of these six floors of new exhibition areas and facilities on Exhibition Road serves as a whole to remind us of what we are often in danger of forgetting or taking for granted: that what we can see on show at any given time in the Victoria and Albert is bound to be only a generous sampling of the untold riches at the museum's disposal. Of course, the major masterpieces are likely always to be visible, unless they are occupying the attention of the conservation department or, exceptionally, on loan elsewhere. But a museum is not just about masterpieces, and this one in particular is about the whole history of design, illuminating its subject for us not by isolated spotlights on the hundred best but by allowing an even, conservation-appraised lighting to play over a representative selection from an infinitude of possibilities.

So, naturally, the more space the better. The prime purpose of the new wing is to give a proper showcase to the museum's prints, drawings, photographs and paintings. Not that they are meant to be seen in isolation from everything else; presumably, even if for the moment we are very conscious of the wing as a separate entity on the other side of the Exhibition Road entrance from the main body of the collections, we shall soon get used to it as just another section, part of the same general concept. To help us keep this in mind, the biggest and most imposing of the temporary exhibitions which will be a regular feature of the second and third levels is *Pattern and Design* (until July 3). This deliberately emphasizes the connections between the Department of Prints, Drawings and Photographs and the rest of the primary collections, by bringing together examples of the decorative arts from 1480 to 1980 with examples of the draughtsman's art which have somehow contributed to or reflected them.

Sometimes the relationship is the most obvious one: here is a silver candlestick by the artist George Michael Moser, and there, next to it, is the original drawn design, embodying the suitably rococo concept of Daphne beginning to change into a bush. Sometimes the relationship is more general: next to these two pieces is a seventeenth-century anonymous Italian painting of the legend, and



Early nineteenth-century panorama show: detail from Carracci's view of Rome (1824)

next to that a print based on Bernini's sculpture, which was no doubt somewhere not so far towards the back of Moser's mind when he did the design. And beyond them a collection of designs for candlesticks or columns which use the idea of the caryatid, also clearly contributory to the design we started out with. In this way variations on a theme are allowed to echo and re-echo, reminding us that no designer is an island and no single masterwork is without its antecedents and its context.

Six centuries is a very long time to cover in one show, even quite a large one, and the designers of *Pattern and Design* do not attempt to make it exhaustive. But as we dart from Limoges enamels to Ravennian Wedgwood, and from Chippendale chinoiserie (now reattributed to John Linell) to Voysey Art Nouveau, we cannot but wonder, as of course we are meant to, at the astonishing variety of what the museum has to offer. Also, be it said, the singular beauty of many of the least regarded examples. Where a collection like the V & A's constantly takes one by surprise is in its invitation to break down in our minds the artificial barriers between the fine and the applied arts.

Art, after all, is not produced only from the conscious intention to make art. Frequently a drawing which was in origin purely functional — an instruction to someone else on how to make something or do something — turns out to have for later observers the most extraordinary aesthetic qualities which have little or nothing to do with its first purpose. We can

learn a lot from the exhibition, by following through in detail the processes by which, say, William Morris came to design his famous *Willow* wallpaper, but beyond that we must rapidly pass beyond education to delight.

The sort of delight, no doubt, that is witnessed in another exhibit in the show, Burne-Jones's sketchbook of c.1862, open at the page on which he has drawn, and in the process made his own, a couple of details from the Renaissance terracotta group of a boy and girl with a goose, shown right beside it and seen by him in the South Kensington Museum (as it then was) more than a century ago. Upstairs on the fourth level we can then follow out the influence this study, and others like it, had on his work as a painter: the extra space assigned to the Burne-Joneses of this world with new eyes is surely to be encouraged.

The new building has one absolute novelty: for the first time there is proper space for a permanent display of key works from the museum's photographic collection, arranged as an informal guide to early photographic processes — though the selection is made with an eye as much to inherent beauty and interest as to purely informational side of things. There is also room for a succession of temporary shows drawn from the collection, and the first of these, *Personal Choice* (until May 22), develops the idea of having 30 persons of note — painters, writers and, most significantly, photographers — select two photographs each and tell us, if they can, exactly what the fascination is for them. There are some likely and some

very unlikely choices: Burne-Jones turns up even here, since one of David Hockney's choices is a Frederick Hollyer photograph of *Perseus and Medusa* while still in Burne-Jones's studio. It is intriguing to see Kintaj, for instance, responding to Belloc's nude portrait of a masked prostitute and Doissieux's picture of a Parisian pug, though not unexpected: the images might well be from his own recent paintings. And many of the other artists involved turn true to form: it seems right that David Bailey should select Wilkin's *Women Breast-feeding an Earl*, or Bill Brandt pick Koudelka's *Prague 1968*, with the watch on the wrist held out in front of a blanching, empty avenue. But how interesting that Mark Holborn couple anything which makes us look at the Burne-Joneses of this world with new eyes is surely to be encouraged.

As well as standard classics, there are unfamiliar works aplenty, and I do not imagine anyone could come out of the show without a few new ideas and a burning desire to answer questions that had never even crossed the mind before. And possibly, after meditating on the evidences of precinema in the historical section, go back upstairs to take another look at the Carracci panorama of Rome (1824) and the accompanying explanation of the early nineteenth-century panorama shows and their workings. And so, start all over again...

John Russell Taylor

Television

Without a doubt

If common sense were a virtue Bobby Robson would be a saint: "You can't get blood out of a stone because there is no blood in a stone." Such hard-headed attitudes have taken him all the way to the top of his profession and Bobby Robson at Ipswich (Channel 4) is already a thing of the past; now he is manager of the English team. This was an account of a football club from the inside, and was a conventional enough exercise in television verité; in fact there are more "behind the scenes" accounts on television these days than there are scenes themselves. For those of us who have grown tired of the muscular clichés of the commentators, however, that may come as a relief.

Mr Robson — "Bite! Bite!" were almost his first words — combines the manic exuberance of a Butlin's tour guide with the inspired wrath of a fundamentalist preacher; there is something almost admirable about a man who seems to suffer from no doubts about anything, least of all about himself. It is a relief he went into football, otherwise he would probably have become a trade union leader.

I have to admit that football managers as a species do not interest me very much; having suffered as a schoolboy from the

attentions of hysterical sports masters, screaming insults from the edge of the pitch, I find cries like "You're going in too early!" and "Think about it, Arsenal!" somewhat lacking in charm. The fascination which they exert upon the "media" is understandable, however; they are the only executives in England who still take their jobs seriously and, what is more, they are the only people left who still wear wide-striped ties. Think about it, Bobby!

I am doubtful about the continuing appeal of such programmes, though, except of course to those unhappy people who like to see naked footballers clambering into the showers. Last night's programme followed the usual pattern of such "inside" documentaries — the private interview with an aspiring player, the pep talk to the team, the agony on the bench, the little piece of reflective commentary with background music (no doubt from *Chariots of Fire*). At this late date, it is somewhat lacking in drama. In any case, half of the programme consisted of confused shouting and foul language — not from the terraces, but from the changing room.

Peter Ackroyd

Rock

Mari Wilson
Palladium

No one really knows how to interpret Mari Wilson, she of the high-rise beehive hair-do, the equally extravagant gowns and the publicity which declares her to be Neasden's Queen of Soul. Existing somewhere between the straight repro of Showaddywaddy and the twisted ironies of the early Roxy Music, she purveys a richly ambiguous mixture of warm nostalgia, camp humour and the most straightforward kind of pop music.

No longer fashionable with the avant garde, she has yet to make a clear explanation of herself to the broader pop audience: which is probably why the Palladium was by no means full on Sunday evening. This was less than she deserved, since she and her many accomplices produced a show infectious enough to banish the reticence of those who had turned up not knowing quite

what to expect or how to respond.

It was a show in which something was happening all the time, in which every detail counted. Each gesture mimed by the backing singers, each pose struck by the variously costumed Miss Wilson, each nuance of instrumental timbre and each flicker of the spotlight added to a knowing but thoroughly good-natured montage of post-war pop culture.

For at least one listener, however, it was what is in the grooves that counts, and Miss Wilson's Motown-rooted Sound of Young Neasden proves itself on musical values alone. The dry "This is it", the downbeat "One Day in a Lifetime" (performed as a Marvin-and-Tammi duet with Paul Young, late of the Q-Tips) and the swooning "Baby It's True" were craftily arranged, immaculately played and sung with flair and real authority. Miss Wilson and Bruce Springsteen are the only people who would be allowed near the Danseuse at my party.

Richard Williams

Concerts

RPO/Foster
Festival Hall

Any concert billing tends to look up when the name of Dmitri Alexeev appears, and so it was on Sunday when the young Russian pianist proved yet again his unique and high standing among his contemporaries as he joined the Royal Philharmonic in a memorable performance of Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a theme by Paganini.

Rarely has a performance made so consistently and irresistibly gripping the spilt-second whirling of tension and release between keyboard and orchestra in the opening variations. And rarely have I heard the spring and pulse of each note, controlled by rigorous yet delightfully loose-limbed strength, at the service of such a freshly individual response to the work as a whole.

Not just in the minutely sensitive nurturing of his big showpieces, but at every turn, Alexeev's playing seemed to reinventate that of the orchestra under their one-time chief guest conductor Lawrence Foster. The savage power of his "Dies Irae" octaves would turn for colouring to the laconic bassoon; and, when it was the piano's turn to accompany solo oboe and violin, Mr Alexeev found a supple, virility of beauty even at pianissimo, which augurs well for his Wigmore Hall recital with Barbara Hendricks in a week's time.

In Mr Alexeev's performances there is always that sense of the music being contained and poised in the head and hand, then realized on contact with the keyboard, not merely worked out through it. The equivalent approach to the evening's flanking performance, a brisk Schubert Symphony No 3 of fresh but only generalized joie-de-vivre and a Fauré Requiem of equally generalized tranquility.

In both works the Royal Philharmonic played well, particularly in the Fauré, where the lower strings, in eloquent partnership with Thomas Allen, brought a density of expressive focus to the performance which was lacking in the well-blended but flaccid singing of the London Choral Society. Too often the admirably clear tone of this choir is dissipated in lazy vowels which slacken both pitch and line. Jennifer Smith's "Pie Jesu" brought that vital dimension of ardour and personal response to sharpen and particularize the work's all too deceptive facility.

Hilary Finch

LSO Brass
Barbican

Music for brass instruments alone can be outdoor or indoor and just occasionally either, as seems possible with *November Journeys*, a "symphony for brass" by George Lloyd. Commissioned by the BBC, it was played for the first time in London on Sunday in a diverting programme by the LSO Brass Ensemble conducted by Edward Downes which is to be repeated here tomorrow.

A choir of brass in this hall sounds warm rather than resplendent, lively in projection instead of incisive. It suited the character of the new work, which is scored for 14 instruments including a flugelhorn and a euphonium. This seems more a series of impressionistic tone poems, derived by the composer from visits to cathedrals in this country, which happened to lend themselves to a symphonic mould of four movements.

They make agreeable listening even if the course of the music is often only too predictable in Mr Lloyd's preferred use of traditional harmonic methods. His felicities of scoring, however, include some chiming figures in the second movement; a blend of muted trumpet and euphonium in the third; and a majestic peroration reminiscent of Mussorgsky to end the finale, where stopped horns at one point added a kind of built-in reverberation.

Overlapping echoes were not to be heard in adaptations for modern instruments of Giovanni Gabrieli's antiphonal Venetian splendour. Purists no doubt believe that trumpets in such music are an anachronism, since they had no part in Gabrieli's Renaissance majestic cathedral sonorities transposed into a modern concert hall is something different again and not to be despised on that account. Indeed, the sense of grandeur and the skill of crossover writing in multi-directional effect achieved a certain splendour in the technique of these players.

One of them, the trombonist Eric Cress, had made special arrangements for the ensemble of the Variations on "America" by Charles Ives, treated with some tongue-in-cheek innovations of instrumental effect, and of Peter Warlock's *Capriol Suite*. The latter's medieval dance tunes in a modern guise actually sound more lively and boisterous than in Warlock's own string orchestra version, and they were played here with infectious rhythmic spirit.

Noël Goodwin

Murray/Johnson
Wigmore Hall

We have waited a long time for Ann Murray's London recital debut; and, to those who have followed her career through concerts, operas and recordings, Saturday evening may have come as something of a surprise.

She made no attempt to prove to us all she is capable of the warm, darker region of her mezzo-soprano — was barely touched; her sustaining power and dramatic resources were scarcely drawn upon. Instead, Miss Murray offered us an intelligently wrought programme of rarities and miniatures, all characterized by a musical and emotional restraint that bordered on minimalism. As if taking a leaf out of the Songmakers' Almanac, of which she has long been a member, she and her accompanist Graham Johnson adopted a distinct stylistic pose throughout: the evening seemed in many ways what a dumb-show is to a drama, or a volume of *belles-lettres* to a novel. Within this scale, and despite their admirably clear, almost instrumental articulation, the Bach and Schubert, "Bist du der mir", "Litanei" and "Ave Maria", inevitably sounded undernourished. But four of Schumann's Op 40 songs, to poems of Hans Andersen, each one a miniature fairytale of sharp, often sinister detail, were perceptively re-created.

"Herzeleid", a tiny, poignant epitaph for Ophelia, most affectingly sung, led nicely to the pivot of Miss Murray's recital: Richard Strauss's Three Ophelia Songs. Here were the numb nuances of vocal timbre and the mordant expressionism which seemed to look back to the dark shadows behind the Schumann and forward to the Poulenc after the interval. The whiteness of the piano's tone, and its shock juxtapositions, were as arrestingly projected as were Miss Murray's arid vowels, shaping a cold, even line of distracted isolation.

This cultivation of a sense of the *ingenue*, with all the blank expressiveness of a mime artist, was used to different yet equally compelling effect in the Poulenc/Cocleau *Cocleau*. Here Miss Murray's ability to enunciate word as sound and sound as vivid, live brilliance whirled their surreal kaleidoscope of words into the air from her brightly expressive top register. After Poulenc's own little set of fairytales, *La Courte sabbie*, Miss Murray and Mr Johnson turned to Cole Porter. Between them, they managed a nice line in coy coyness.

Hilary Finch

In its ten years' existence the Academy of Ancient Music has risen to success greater than anyone dared foresee. Nicholas Kenyon talks to its director, Christopher Hogwood, who this weekend presents his Mostly Mozart festival at the Barbican

Authentic
big business

Christopher Hogwood rehearsing, from the harpsichord, the Academy of Ancient Music

"At the beginning it was very different. The reaction from most musicians was 'well, it won't teach us much' or 'it won't last long'. Now I find there's a remarkable interest and sympathy for our approach from all sorts of unlikely quarters. I am asked to the Hollywood Bowl and the New York Mostly Mozart festival to do Handel or Mozart with conventional chamber orchestras — they want to learn what this business of historical awareness is about."

Christopher Hogwood's Academy of Ancient Music is ten years old, and its success has been greater than anyone could have foreseen in the early days. When it appeared as an eclectic corner of what was then the "early music" world. Now its Mozart symphony cycle for Decca is complete (the last release is in April) and selling well, and Hogwood is directing his own Mostly Mozart festival at the Barbican this weekend.

Ten years ago they were playing trio sonatas in a way that attempted to recapture contemporary performance styles. Hogwood himself was a member of David Munrow's famous Early Music Consort, and had become somewhat disenchanted with it. "There simply wasn't enough evidence for all the things we were doing with medieval music, and I wanted to work in a period when I could relate far more closely the surviving instruments and written sources to the sound we produced. In the Consort I played the crumhorn before, oh, I think four crowned heads of Europe all on the strength of a thirty-minute session I once had in a Scottish castle in the middle of some tour. It was one invention on top of another, all the time."

So Hogwood gathered together a few colleagues who were interested in the performance of baroque music, but it was a recording company, Decca,

which provided the real initial stimulus. "We were playing small-scale works, because I wanted to explore what happens when you put three or four different sounds together, the textures and the problems of articulations and so on. But what provoked the larger Academy was that after a Carlton House concert one night we went out for a drink with Peter Wadland, who had just inherited the problem of what to do with the Oiseau-Lyre label, and came up with the idea that if we combined enough of these small groups — and we knew one or two oboists, horn players and so on — we might just manage to make an orchestra. So we did it."

Had he been worried about rushing straight on to disc with such a speculative venture? "Oh yes, and I still am. But that was the only way to do it then, and I think that if you are going to rush into a recording studio the best people to do it with are English players, who have this splendidly adaptable sense of what will work. So what we set up was this very, almost democratic, system, where everything was discussed and tried out, and we proceeded on the sum total of all the players' knowledge and research."

"I think there was a sense in the air that this thing had to happen. Even the Academy of St Martin's, with whom I'd been doing some work after Bob Dart died, had been experimenting: I'd been telling them to try playing without vibrato in the Vivaldi Op 3, and they almost did! I think a changeover to historically-aware styles of playing was already happening: we were a catalyst, if you like. But one interesting thing about our players, at least at the beginning, was that many of the strings had moved forward from being viol players rather than back from being modern violinists, that gave us a very different style from the Amster-

dam and Vienna baroque orchestras, and also it made our sound really very different from what people were used to."

"I think there was a great deal of openness among the public, and especially in the first years, when we were doing repertoire which was rarely touched by ordinary orchestras, there was this feeling of giving validity to music which usually sounded just rather weedy, straining against the medium. We could make it sound convincing. But has that not been altered now, when the pressure seems to be on for authentic bands to record familiar music? "Oh yes, and that is one of the big changes. Now that the record companies see that there are big opportunities in all this, it becomes far more difficult to persuade them to do unusual repertoire and unheard-of composers, which is a great pity."

And had the record companies not oversold the whole business of authenticity? I reminded Hogwood that one of his recent records is marketed in the United States with the sticker "Authentic Edition: the famous Kanon as Pachelbel heard it". "Hm, that's just a piece of patent commercialism: now we've made it into the big time, they have to extract their world killings. But I'm rather ambivalent about that approach, because of course in the eighteenth century there were masses of hype and self-advertisement. And with a record like that you do make so many converts and persuade people to listen in a way that they might not have thought of."

The Academy's cycle of the complete Mozart symphonies has been another enormous marketing success; what next? "My original idea, which may yet happen, was the Schubert symphonies. People thought an obvious thing would be Beethoven, but I think I'd prefer to skirt that for a while, because there are such problems. I think



John Marnley

every group such as ours needs a basic repertoire where you can feel that, if you're using the right instruments and playing in a certain style, the music gives you back the answer whether you're doing it right or wrong. You can feel that certainly with Handel, and also with Mozart. And I think, from doing the Schubert sonatas with Jaap Schröder, that you could feel it with him too. But Beethoven is always asking you to break a string or bust a lung, and that's just not safe territory to begin exploring these problems."

I wondered about the arrangement that seems to have affected the early-music scene, with its implication that their way is the only way. "I'm sick of early music as a concept, a ghetto. I'm against centres and associations and so on — perhaps people just ought to have 'historical awareness' diplomas, or something. I think there's an assumption that if you exert yourself in this area then all other approaches are invalid. Of course not, you can listen to the music in whatever way you like. But I think it is reasonable to say that, if there are 47 or however many *Messiahs* in the record catalogue, it's a good idea if just a couple of those actually reflect what Handel wrote or how he might have expected to hear it."

Such a peaceful co-existence seems to be at the heart of this weekend's Mostly Mozart festival at the Barbican, where

Hogwood's authentic Mozart — a new completion of the *Requiem* removing all spurious elements, and a "Haffner" Symphony with an interpolated soprano aria — plus a stab at early Beethoven with rub shoulders with absolutely conventional concerts and a myriad of foyers happenings, 200-horn farangies and children's events. "The nice thing about all the T-shirts and cafes and entertainment, which is wonderful, is that it doesn't detract in any way from the really serious music-making. I hate festivals which aren't at all festive, and this one will have lots going on the whole time and will hopefully create an atmosphere in which the concerts can flourish. I learnt quite a bit from the New York Mostly Mozart festival, but one thing there is that the same orchestra plays all the time: its word is Mozart. I'd like to have as much variety of style as possible, and maybe in a future year have a couple of resident bands like the English Chamber Orchestra and a group from abroad, and include the really great Mozartians, like Serkin."

With Tanglewood beckoning in the summer, and an increasing number of outside commitments, does this mean that the Academy will suffer? "Actually, it helps to pay the bills. I have to find thousands each year to keep the Academy going, so to that extent all the Hollywood-type events are a guarantee that the Academy can continue."

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COMPUTER HORIZONS

People/John Coyne, The MicroComputer Business

How to win at the sharp end

"Last Monday," says John Coyne, displaying a grazed knuckle, "We started Alaskan knife fighting. We also do something called spirit combat, which includes Japanese sword fighting. It's like kendo, but you use open blades instead of sticks."

Coyne is explaining how he and his partner Helmut Freericks, a Dutchman, relieve the tension of running their computer company. "We were both working about 18 hours a day, and our nerves were jangling. We decided we'd better take up a pretty active sport. I joined a ju-jitsu club, and Helmut came along."

The conflicts of the martial arts do not extend to business hours. The two men met when they worked together in Holland, and developed a respect for each other's abilities. Coyne returned to Britain in 1980 to found The MicroComputer Business, a software company. Freericks joined him three months later.

"I take Helmut's word on anything," says Coyne. "He knows more about microcomputers than anyone else. He not

only writes the system software, he builds microcomputers. He built probably the first micro in Europe, nine years ago."

Freericks is now 28. John Coyne, who is just 30, says that things started happening for him when he was 26. "That's when I decided I would start pushing myself up."

Before that he had worked on computers with a British company, switched to a large software house, then became manager of computer services for a Swiss firm, and finally moved to Holland.

The MicroComputer Business came about because Coyne felt that a good idea was being wasted. While with the Dutch company he took it on himself to survey the microcomputer market, and decided there were opportunities in packaged software. Unhappy that his ideas were not received more enthusiastically, he returned to Britain and started his own company.

"I wanted to put together a suite of business applications programs that covered everybody's needs, and that were fail-safe," he explains. "I borrowed some money from a chap I met



in a pub and started research." Programs, he believes, should be written to get the most out of a particular machine. "Everyone else was designing to the lowest common denominator." Another element in his approach concerns presentation. "The documentation is intended for everybody - it meets the needs of the systems analyst, but also includes operator instructions for people who just about know how to read."

Although The MicroComputer Business made a slower start

than Coyne had hoped, he expects it to turn over about £2.5m this year. A lot of this will come from abroad, with big contracts already in the United States, Australia, the Middle East, and South-East Asia.

Coyne refers to *The Book of Five Rings*, which he says is required reading in Japan, and was written by that country's most renowned swordsman. Is it about swordsmanship? "It's about the strategy of winning."

Roger Woolnough

A first in London festivals

The first London Computer Festival opens on April 3, for two weeks. One of the main attractions will be the three-day Computer Fair at the Central Hall, Westminster (14 to 16 April), writes Geoffrey Ellis.

This is the old North London Poly fair, which has now outgrown its accommodation. Three years ago it started with only 20 exhibitors and drew 5,000 visitors; this year there will be more than 70 exhibitors with the organizers hoping for more than 20,000 visitors.

There is encouragement for young programmers by the provision of three-foot tables at very low rates, enabling several enthusiasts to club together and market their goods. There will be at least two 14 year olds demonstrating their games packages, plus a pharmacist and a taxi driver who have developed commercial programs. To date, at least five small software houses have sprung from the North London Computer Club.

On Saturday April 16, there will be a vast bring and buy sale, with customers trading in their outgrown machines and selling software they have become bored with.

Tents and new tech, a hit with the young

"We learned so much - from psychobionics to riding, music synthesizers to electronic construction kits - so much to do and just not enough time to do it in. A week is not long enough, and with the time you want to spend on the computers, it would be even better if Dolphin were residential, and during other school holidays, too, not just in the summer... It was all good structured serious fun. I made jewelry and pottery, but my most interesting subject was psychobionics - learning about your emotions physically and mentally, and discovering more about yourself by using computers. I'd never done the subject before and I enjoyed learning new things and meeting new people."

These are comments from Kirsti Sturgeon and her brother Andrew, who spent a week last year at the first of the Dolphin Computer Day camps to be initiated in Britain. Dolphin is an organization developing new ways of introducing children to

the electronic Disneyland of computer programming, offering a wealth of micro magic and enabling youngsters to combine the learning of new skills with a combination of other sporting, creative or technically-based interests.

This year, as if in response to 15-year-old Andrew's comments, Dolphin has extended its computing interests, to include both residential and day centre options. And it offers "techno" camps in all the school holidays, starting with Easter.

Computing and multi-act ivity holidays start on Saturday and there is a variety to choose from, depending on whether a day camp, or residential camp, is preferred, and on the age of the youngster. Dolphin caters for five to 17 year olds.

Youngsters are provided with an enormous variety of electronic and sports equipment - hundreds of microcomputers, video sets, interfacing devices, robotic, film animation, and audiotronic hardware. Much of

this equipment is supplied by Texas Instruments, Com. Apple Computers and other companies.

The generosity of such companies such as these has encouraged the popularity of the technology-based interests, with 70 per cent of the youngsters who book for Dolphin opting for the computer camp activities.

With a computer for everyone, and a specialist for every five children, enthusiasm and ability develop fast. In a week, youngsters can be writing their own programs, video games, exploring higher level languages, experimenting with random access file handling and getting to grips with machine codes, assembly languages and the building of their own robots.

Add to this a choice of some 30 other activities - including painting, the performing arts, go-karting, gymnastics, rifle shooting, riding, windsurfing, sailing, judo and fashion - the camp offers a compelling variety of fun and instruction.

Though the youngsters are encouraged to take part in these recreations, experience at the Beaumont Summer Camps in America, run in close association with Dolphin, has indicated that many become addicted to the technology. Children have much less fear of the science than adults, and quickly become proficient.

It is unlikely, however, that children like 13-year-old Kirsti and her brother will become computer junkies, for it is improbable that their own schools could match the resources of Dolphin computer camps. Enthusiasm wanes when queuing for your daily fix at the school's solitary computer; hence the demand for home computers.

There are two problems, of which Dolphin is only too aware. One is that, fun though computers are, they do not offer opportunities for youngsters to socialize. Dolphin insists, therefore, that the whetting of the micro appetite must be combined with a

sporting activity.

The other problem concerns "the keyboard gap", with children like Kirsti and Andrew returning as programmed offspring to non-computerized parents. Dolphin is therefore introducing weekend courses for parents, who can share the thrill of discovering new interests with their children, and specialist courses for businessmen.

Unlike the Sturgeon children many businessmen find computer learning courses more of a chore than a challenge. Perhaps more institutions should take note of Dolphin.

Day camps start at £59 a week, with transport facilities arranged at £12 a week. The residential camps at Eastbourne and Edinburgh start at £114 a week with escorted travel from £5 a week. Further details available from Dolphin Activities Ltd, 68 Churchway, London NW1 1LT. Telephone: 01-337-5602.

Lynda King Taylor

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Control Data is a worldwide computer and financial services company, with annual sales exceeding \$4.5 billion.

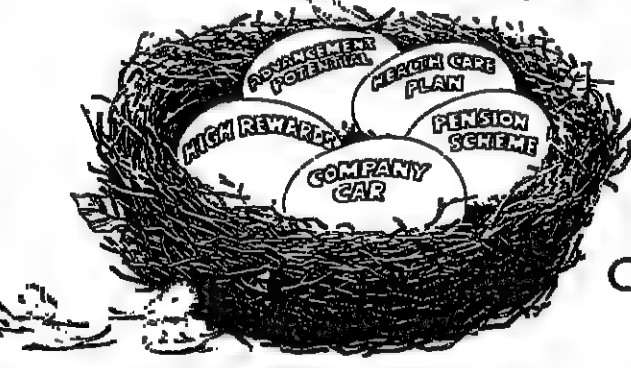
It's the world's leading manufacturer of computer peripherals and magnetic media. Its products include the world's most powerful computer, the Cyber 205 series.

The Company places heavy emphasis on the application of computer technology for educational, scientific, CAD/CAM and

commercial purposes. Its customers include many leading U.K. organisations associated with these markets.

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1. Education Services - supplying services such as the PLATO computer based learning system, and the Control Data Institute Training Centres.



2. Cybernet Services - supplying unique computer based solutions to engineering, nuclear, exploration and mining industries.

3. Business Information Services - supplying commercial computer application packages and databases for business and finance.

Successful applicants will be in the 25-40 age range, preferably with a degree or HNC, and with a proven record in business to date.

Although previous experience of selling computer services is not essential, energy and potential are needed for these important sales positions with their excellent career opportunities into general management.

A compensation package and conditions will be consistent with working for a leading international computer company, and will include a company car, plus pension and private health care schemes.

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Apply in writing, with CV to: David Woolcott, Personnel Manager, Control Data Limited, Control Data House, 179-199 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8AR.

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Municipal Mutual Insurance Ltd established 1903 and the leading Insurance Company in the United Kingdom for Local Government and Public Bodies is at present setting up a nationwide on-line network to service Branch Offices from its recently installed IBM 4341 in the centre of Guildford. Current and future development necessitates an increase in key staff within the organisation providing unique career opportunities for the right candidates.

Senior Systems Programmer up to £14,200.

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The more senior positions carry responsibility for the development of major new on-line systems with the opportunity to achieve Project Leader status fairly quickly.

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To play a major role in building up the present programming team who will be implementing our system development plans. The successful applicant will take responsibility for the quality of technical design and programming work on each of our new projects. This will include the formalisation of current installation standards and procedures. Extensive experience of IBM COBOL, DOS/VSE, CICS and DLI is a pre-requisite for this position and applicants must have a solid background of programmer team leading.

Programmers £7,000-£9,500.

To supplement our existing small team in developing user on-line database systems. Applicants should have at least two years IBM COBOL experience in a CICS/DLI environment.



All positions carry the benefits normally associated with a leading Insurance Company. If you feel that you have the required skills for any of the above positions and would like to know more, please write in confidence enclosing your C.V. to:

M.J. Aldir, Management Services Manager, Municipal Mutual Insurance Ltd., Bury Fields, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5AQ

MANAGER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

£12,174 to £14,058

The Kent County Council and Marconi Avionics are jointly sponsoring an Information Technology Centre to be established in the Medway area. The aim of the Centre is to help unemployed young people gain work experience and training in the area of new technology. Forty young people and eight adult staff will be involved in such fields as electronic component assembly, control systems, computer maintenance, digital techniques, word processing and teletext editing. We are seeking a person, male or female, with proven managerial experience, a capability in both hardware and software, and a knowledge of production and marketing techniques to supervise and manage the Centre.

Job description and application form, returnable by 5 April 1983 to the County Education Officer (P4), Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2LJ.

Tel: Maidstone (0622) 671411, ext. 2367. (Please enclose SAE).

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

WANTED A PROGRAMMER £5,973 - £6,693

... to join a small Systems Development Team in our Computer Division. Applicants should have at least 18 months programming experience preferably using DOS/VSE, COBOL or CICS.

The County Council operates IBM 4341 processors and is actively engaged in expanding a countywide data-processing network. DLI, UFO, CICS, STAIRS, Electronic mail and word processing are integral parts of the software used in this development. Disturbance grants are payable in appropriate cases and temporary housing may be available. Further details and an application form can be obtained from:

Miss A. Sherman, Directorate of Finance and Administration, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB2 0AP. Tel: (0223) 317283.

Closing date for applications: Friday 8th April.

The week/Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

A marriage made in Britain

Office Technology (OTL) and Data Recall are merging to create a significant new British-owned force in the international office automation market.

The combined business will trade under the OTL name, within the Information Technology (ITL) group. The latter's turnover will be carried comfortably above £20m a year with the addition of £5m from Data Recall.

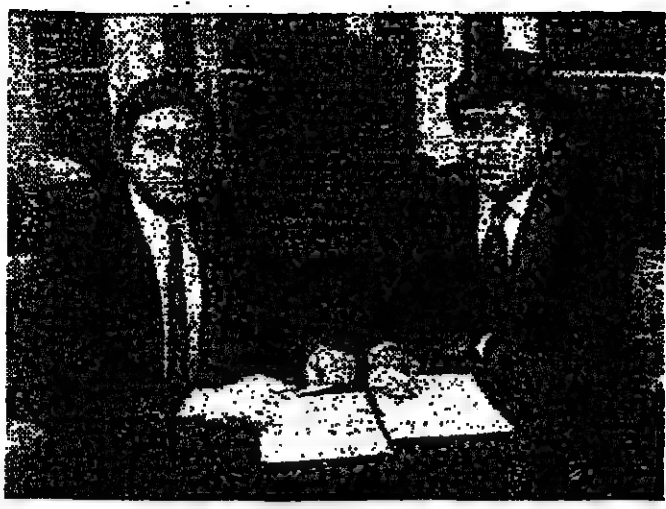
The merger is being accomplished through a share exchange, and Kleinwort Benson, the current owner of Data Recall, will become a minority shareholder in ITL. Other shareholders include the ICF and Pergamon Press. The intention is to go public within three years.

Mr "Spud" Taylor, managing director of OTL, will remain in charge of the enlarged company. He said: "Here is a merger of two high technology companies which retains control in the United Kingdom. One thing that concerns me is the number of high technology companies where control is passing out of the UK."

Data Recall developed and manufactures the Diamond word processors at Bookham, Surrey. OTL's product is the IMP office system (made in Winchester, Hampshire) whose work stations integrate voice communications with graphics, text and data.

The new OTL has 200 employees. Mr Taylor expects staffing to remain at about that level during 1983 as the merger is consolidated, but recruitment should resume toward the end of the year.

The British Technology Group continues valiantly to invest public funds in fledgling microcomputer companies, as it waits for the government to announce its new mission in life. The two latest recipients of £100,000 each are Integrated



Tony Sumner, left, of Data Recall, and R J (Spud) Taylor, of OTL, discuss details of their merger

BART has in fact been running fairly reliably since about 1980 but it is still constrained by the deficiencies of its 13-year-old computer system. The new ICS should immediately allow the network to run 75 trains at one time on its 72-miles of track instead of the present 49.

Anyone with far-sighted ideas about the office of the future may be interested in the Tomorrow's Office competition being organised by Office magazine and Cartwright Brice. Entrants must predict in 500 to 1,000 scintillating words the changes in the office over the next 10 to 15 years. The first prize is £1,000. Entry forms from Office, 1 Grover Walk, Corringham, Town Centre, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex SS17 7LU.

Gardening Corner - backache, itanus and allergies are just three problems affecting gardeners.

In the Mainly for Women cassette, there are items about: Breast abnormalities - how to examine your breast correctly.

Anorexia - a disease which frightens many mothers. See early warning signs.

In the All about Children cassette there are items on: How to tell if you need a doctor.

Basic problems - how to deal with a child who won't eat or sleep, or keeps crying.

Vaccines - when and when.

Dr Coleman said: "Although the series is aimed to show people how to deal with minor problems themselves, at the same time the cassettes are carefully designed to ensure that people who need help see their doctors sooner rather than later."

Alan Lewis

Micro Products of Consett, County Durham, and Shelton Instruments of London. Both make multi-user office systems.

The foundation of Integrated Micro Products 15 months ago was an example of an old declining industry acting as midwife at the birth of a company of the future. British Steel gave Integrated Micro Products a start-up loan, as part of its policy of creating new jobs in Consett after closing the town's steelworks.

The new company has sold 10 of its IMF-68 systems so far. Shelton Instruments is a more mature company, having shipped 1,000 of its SIG/NET range of products, which communicate by an innovative local area network.

US firm cuts the cost of a telex

Telex services and Telecom Gold's Dialcom public electronic mail system may face stiff competition from an international rival to be launched on May 1. MDS Computer Systems (UK), part of Mohawk Data Sciences in New Jersey, claims that its electronic mail service will undercut international telex rates by up to 70 per cent and out-perform Dialcom, writes Maggie McLeamy.

The service, Worldwide Integrated Communications (WINC), collects mail from subscribers and delivers it to addressees anywhere in the world, rather than merely holding it in a mailbox to await collection. Recipients need not be subscribers: anyone with a telex number can receive a message. This is a feature not currently offered by Telecom Gold, although the company plans to introduce it shortly.

WINC was designed to link users of MDS microprocessor-based Series 21 computers, but it can be accessed by any terminal which supports dial-up operation and can be connected to the host machines. Four DEC PDP 11 minicomputers are to be installed at MDS Computer Systems (UK) headquarters in Putney, where two of them will be used for back up.

Subscribers buy a port (or share of one) in the host, paying a network administration fee and a polling charge, plus usage. The rate of polling is chosen by the user and could be, typically, anything between 15 minutes and two hours in frequency. Usage is charged in multiples of 600 characters.

British tariffs are not yet finalized but it is estimated that an organization with 60 terminals connected into WINC would pay about £50 per terminal per month in fixed costs, with usage rates on top. The price would decrease with the addition of extra terminals.

"We don't consider WINC to be a serious rival," said a spokesman for Telecom Gold.

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Medicine becomes computerized Plug in your doctor

Are you tired of not being able to see your GP when you want to? Are you irritated by waiting room queues and the apology of an appointment system?

If the answer to these questions is "yes", then there is a breakthrough in "home" medicine just available.

When the children have finished playing their games on your Sinclair or Commodore VIC 20 computer, you can turn it to more practical purposes. For what is probably Britain's first home doctor programme for computer is now available. A sort of hypochondriac's heaven!

Dr Vernon Coleman, one of the country's leading medical authorities has prepared the text for this remarkable set of six cassettes called "The Home Doctor Series".

The cassettes cover the following subjects: Basic Medicine, Mainly for Women, Mainly for Men; All About Children; How Healthy Are You? and 101 Home Nursing Tips.

Dr Coleman, author of the new book *Bodypower* which is a new self-help approach to medicine, has turned his attention to computers. He says: "The idea of using the computer as a diagnostic aid is not a new one. Over the years dozens of doctors have toyed with the idea of programming a computer to ask scores of questions and answers to come up with a diagnosis."

"In theory there is absolutely no reason why a computer should not match any diagnostician in the world. After all, an electronic machine is not likely to have its mind on other

matters such as mortgages or overdrafts."

But so far most doctors interested in computers seem to have confined themselves to using them as expensive filing cabinets. "It is like using a space rocket to launch a kite," says Dr Coleman. "Slowly I became convinced that the most important task for a diagnostic computer is not to tell users what is wrong with them, but to tell them whether or not they need to seek medical advice."

Dr Coleman says that if diagnostic computers are to flourish they must be designed to complement the medical services available and not take over from them.

Now the production of The Home Doctor Series represents the culmination of three months' development. The programmes have been specially developed by Mr Russell Smith, technical director of Eastmead Computer Systems. Mr Smith is a neurophysiologist and a specialist in the use of microcomputers in medicine.

He said: "We specifically picked the Sinclair ZX81 and Commodore VIC20 home computers because of the large number of sales these two machines have achieved both to the home purchaser and into educational establishments."

"Apart from our obvious commercial interest, we deliberately wanted to make the medical information available to as wide an audience as possible."

"While the series is designed to complement our own National Health Service, we hope that the medical information will achieve success abroad, particularly in those

countries where health care is poor, such as the Third World."

"The screening approach that we have adopted will allow paramedics to decide if a doctor should be called in or not. This role could be crucial where trained doctors have to cover many hundreds of square miles in low density populated countries."

The series covers a vast range of topics. In the Mainly for Men cassette, there are items about: Heart and blood pressure quiz - Are you a potential victim? Find out with a special quiz.

Sporting problems - what injuries you may have to cope with.

Gardening Corner - backache, itanus and allergies are just three problems affecting gardeners.

In the Mainly for Women cassette, there are items about: Breast abnormalities - how to examine your breast correctly.

Anorexia - a disease which frightens many mothers. See early warning signs.

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Vaccines - when and when.

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Alan Lewis

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Ref. CS1 Customer Consultants Provide technical backup in sales teams and to key customers. 1 year micro-computer experience essential. Salary £8-10,000.

2. Finance and Operations Vacancies All positions report to Finance Director.

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Ref. OM1 Operations Manager Responsible for Stock Control, Buying, Order Processing, Quality Control, Delivery, Installation and Maintenance of micro-computers. 5 years' man management experience of operations functions essential. Salary £10,000, BUPA, Pension.

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 655.5 down 1.4
FT 100 Index 79.91 down 0.71
FT All Share 413.15 down 0.56
Bargains 25.127
Tring Half USM Index 170.5 up 1.4
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones 8,387.91 up 88.82
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 975.90 down 7.43
New York Dow Jones Average (Latest) 1,140.48 up 0.39

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4540 down 65pts
Index 78.1
DM 3.5425
FF 10.6075
Yen 349.50
Dollar
Index 123.0
DM 2.4342 up 195 pts
Gold
\$409.50 down 4.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$408.75
Sterling \$1.4535

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10%
3 month interbank 11-10%
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3 month dollar 9% 9%
3 month DM 5% 4%
3 month 12% 12%
ECB Fixed Rate Sterling
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Average reference rate for interest period February 2 to March 1, 1983 inclusive: 11.391 per cent.

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Midland hints at profits rise

A strong hint that profits will be up again this year comes from Sir Donald Barron, Midland Bank's chairman. He says in the annual report that the foundations of the group strategy created a profit plateau in 1980 and 1981. Although world economic conditions will have an effect, Midland is now confident that, in the absence of unforeseen factors, the trend will continue to be favourable.

CAMPAIGN: Bassishaw, the privately controlled investment group, is launching a £90,000 advertising campaign to convince UDS shareholders that they should accept its 130p cash offer even though it is lower than a rival bid from Hanson Trust.

ID DEFENCE: Cope Aliman International's defence document against the bid from the Douvle consortium is expected today and will probably forecast profits of about £2m for the year. But it is not expected to give details of the mystery buyer which recently approached the board for part of the business.

NAME CHANGES: M. J. H. Nightingale, the investment and financing group which runs the Over-the-Counter Market in company shares, is changing its name to Granville & Co. This comes after the departure of Mr Michael Nightingale, its founder, and changes in shareholdings which leave City institutions with 44 per cent and employees owning the rest.

JOBS FOR SALE: The entire workforce at Linotype Paul in Cheltenham is being advertised in an attempt to save the jobs of 500 skilled staff. The company announced this year that it was closing its British operation and moving production of high technology equipment to West Germany. Inbuscon, business consultants, is trying to find a company to employ the workforce.

Wall Street shares slightly lower

New York (Reuters) - Interest rate concerns that began on Friday were carried over into early trading yesterday and pushed stock prices slightly lower in light trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 2.03 to 1138.45 and losing issues were ahead of gainers about two to one.

Volume was only about 3 million shares in early trading. Paradyne, which on Friday was charged with fraud by the Securities and Exchange Commission, was the biggest loser on the day, falling 8 1/2 to 26 1/2, on the second highest turnover.

Stock prices weakened late on Friday after Dr Henry Kaufman, of Salomon Brothers, predicted higher interest rates. Analysts expected those concerns to influence trading.

Mr John Smith, partner in Faber-Castell & Co, said that the relatively low volume in the early morning seemed to be causing the market some trouble. Mr Smith said that stocks normally tended to sag in times of light activity "but this market just does not want to go down".

Johnson & Johnson was up 1/4 at 47 1/2. Federal Express was up 1/2 at 81 1/2. Dow Chemical was up 1/2 to 10 1/2. CSX Corporation unchanged at 60. AMR Corporation up 1/2 at 27 1/2. NCR off 1/2 at 113 1/2. and Teletype off 1/2 at 153 1/2.

Digital Equipment was 126 1/2 up 1/2. General Electric 104 1/2 up 1/2. International Business Machines 102 1/2 up 1/2. Sperry 37 1/2 off 1/2. Data General 58 1/2 off 1/2. Honeywell 94 1/2 off 1/2. and Associated Dry Goods 56 1/2 up 1/2.

Green quits Hogg to avoid clash

By Our Financial Staff

Sir Peter Green, chairman of Lloyd's insurance market, is resigning from the board of Hogg Robinson, the insurance broking group.

The decision effective from Thursday, is aimed at avoiding any conflict on interests which might emerge when Hogg Robinson divests its underwriting interests to meet the requirements of the 1982 Lloyd's Act.

Under the terms of the Act which came into effect nine months ago, broking firms must divest their underwriting activities within five years. Sir Peter



Green: First Council member to disclose interests

is presently chairman of Janson Green, the underwriting agency, a wholly owned underwriting agency of Hogg Robinson.

It was being argued at Lloyd's yesterday that unless Sir Peter resigned from either the board of Hogg Robinson, or that of Janson Green, there would be clear conflict of interest when Hogg Robinson decided to sell Janson Green.

Sir Peter is on holiday in the US and was unavailable for comment on the move.

His position on the Hogg Robinson board will be taken by Mr James Vaughan, from New York.

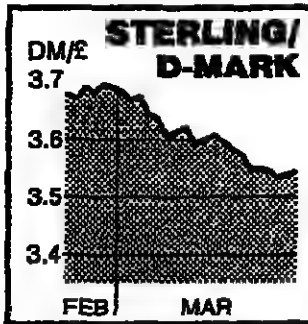
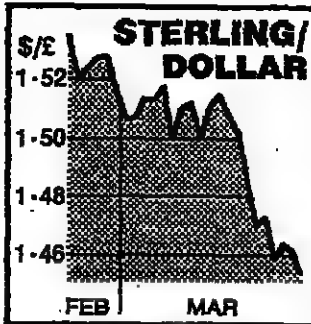
Sir Peter volunteered last month to become the first member of the Lloyd's Council to disclose details of his business interests in anticipation of a new by-law to be passed later this year.

In a major report on what is regarded as the heartland of Britain's manufacturing industries, the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce said that "all the evidence indicates that the region is in structural decline... and that a major investment in new industries will need to be made if the unemployment problems of the future are to be resolved".

The report described the West Midlands as "the most extreme example of the UK's national problem". Unemployment has been rising in the West Midlands at one of the highest rates in the country and

Sterling slumps to another record low and worse is expected

By Michael Prest



Amid continuing apprehension about oil prices and the course of American interest rates after the present monthly meeting of the United States Federal Reserve Board the pound briefly slipped in early afternoon trading to another record low point of \$1.4508.

Although it rallied in light trading, the closing rate of \$1.4540, a fall of 63 points on the weekend, is the lowest recorded. Against other currencies sterling did better, however, and trade weighted index held steady at 78.1.

Nevertheless, the belief that sterling may weaken further against the dollar is widespread in the City, despite the remarks last week by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, that the fall is temporary.

Indeed, the failure of the Government to commit itself to support of the pound, while

even hinting that it preferred interest rates to come down again, is cited as one of the forces working against sterling.

Mr David Morrison, currency analyst with stockbrokers Simon & Coates, said: "No one is prepared to take an aggressive, long-term sterling position".

But the strongest depressing forces are still interest rates and oil. United States Federal Funds rates have drifted up from 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent at the end of last year to 8 1/2-8 7/8 per cent. There is the feeling that they could stay at around 9 per cent until June or July.

The Middle East Economic Survey, a newsletter based in Cyprus with good Opec connections, reported that President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria had told Opec that his country would not respond to a 50 cent cut in British North Sea prices to \$30 a barrel, the same price as Nigeria charges.

But he is said to have threatened that any reduction below that would be matched. The British National Oil Corporation is under pressure from

customers to make more cuts, but is expected to delay a decision until next week.

Mr Lawson stressed that Britain would do what it could, within the confines of market forces, to introduce a degree of stability into the oil market. He said that North Sea production this year would be about the same as last year's 100 million tonnes.

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TKM sells Smedley for £1

By Jeremy Warner

The heavily loss-making Smedley canned food business has been sold for what was described as a "nominal consideration" believed to be £1.

The sale to Hillsdown Holdings, a private company with sales of more than £400m a year was announced yesterday by the troubled international trading group Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn.

Hillsdown gets a business with net assets of £6.6m, but with chalked-up losses for last year of £7.4m. However, Mr Harry Solomon, Hillsdown's managing director, said yesterday he believed that Smedley, which has been hit by the trend from canned to fresh or frozen fruit and vegetables, would be

turned round within a year. The process of restoring the company to profits will clearly require substantial rationalization, including the possible closure of one or more of its three plants at Spalding, Maldon and Wisbech.

The sale will result in a write-off for TKM of £12m in its accounts for last year. However it will also free the group from one of the main drains of the group's top management.

The present Smedley business results from a disastrous merger two years ago between the old Smedley, belonging to Imperial Group, and TKM's own canning business, Lockwoods. The new company was a joint venture owned on a 50-50 basis.

But, under the deal, Imperial Group was given the right to sell its 50 per cent interest to TKM for £5m. It exercised this option a few weeks ago, leaving TKM free to sell the business to Hillsdown.

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At the same time the British National Oil Corporation and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are trying to outsize each other. BNOC is under pressure to cut prices, but Nigeria has threatened to match the cuts cent for cent.

In the longer term, however, analysts argue that sterling could recover late in the year. At an Institute of Directors seminar yesterday Mr Brendan Brown, currency analyst at stockbrokers Phillips & Drew, said that confidence would return after a Conservative election victory. The threat of inflation induced by the weakness of sterling could lead to a monetary squeeze when sterling would rise to \$1.60.

This approach is partly based on the pound's performance against other currencies. It closed 125 points up against the Deutsche mark at DM3.5425,

275 points better against the franc at F10.6075, and three yen stronger at Y349.50.

● The possibility that interest rates could rise, or at least should not fall much, may not be as serious for heavily indebted countries as was once thought, however. In its latest review, Amex Bank argues that the oil prices increase of 1979 hurt oil importing Third World countries more than interest rates.

Brazil, for example, has paid \$13,290m extra for oil over and above what it would have paid had oil prices been indexed to inflation and US interest rates. Real interest rates have cost \$2,895m extra.

The review says: "Special compensatory finance to replace 'excess' oil debts would alleviate much of the oil importers' debt difficulties."

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City Comment

When the middle man is squeezed

The day Mr Ian MacGregor was appointed as head of the National Coal Board at a salary of £60,000-a-year and a further transfer fee of £1.5m to Lazard Frères, the New York investment bank where he used to be a partner, is not the day you would expect a trade union leader to protest that the chairman of nationalized industries are not paid enough.

Indeed you might well think that no day has yet dawned when a union leader would make such a statement.

But that is what has happened. Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers Association, which represents 30,000 middle managers in power stations, wants the pay for those at the top of the electricity boards - at present £56,000 a year - to be increased substantially.

The point made by Mr Lyons, however, is that these relatively modest pay awards are not in the interests of the rest of the employees of the industry. And those who feel the squeeze particularly are his members in middle and senior management - for it is they who suffer most from the erosion of differentials. Employees below them in the hierarchy remorselessly encroach from below, while the public pressure to keep the chairman's salaries down puts a lid on the scale of increase the managers underneath can expect.

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freemans

Mail Order

Preliminary announcement of consolidated profits for the 52 weeks ended 29th January 1983

	52 weeks ended 29 January '83	52 weeks ended 29 January '82
Turnover including VAT	315,020	291,382
VAT	36,429	33,938
	278,591	257,424
Trading profit	9173	15138
Interest payable	(2816)	(2057)
Profit before taxation	6,357	13,081
Taxation	(1,518)	(4,515)
Profit after taxation	4,839	8,466
Earnings per share	6.9p	12.1p
Interim dividend paid	1.9p	1.9p
Proposed final dividend	2.25p	2.25p
	4.15p	4.15p

At the interim stage we said that we had suffered a shortfall in planned sales. This situation continued and indeed worsened somewhat in the second half. By the end of the year sales had increased by 8% but this was insufficient to offset the rise in costs, which still tended to reflect the national inflation rate. The rise in prices within the mix of goods we sell averaged between 3½-4% throughout the year. Stock mark-downs were well above the level of the previous year due to the disappointing sales. Additionally, bad debt has increased sharply for the second successive year. By the end of the year, total borrowings had risen £7m and represented 38% of capital and reserves.

Much has been done during the past six months to improve profitability, not least in the area of credit control and it is hoped that bad debt will show a significant reduction this year as a result. A large number of uncommercial agencies have been closed and new agent recruitment has been cut. By the end of the year active agency strength was 600,000, equal to the previous year but below the levels at which we had been operating during the year. All these measures are making sales more difficult to achieve and after 7 weeks we are slightly below last year.

After a very poor start demand has shown some improvement in recent weeks but it is impossible to predict whether, and to what extent, that improvement may continue. What must be apparent is that the first-half of the current year looks particularly difficult.

However when we look at the full year there are a number of factors that are favourable. The general rate of inflation has now dropped to a level that will relieve the extra cost pressures we have been bearing; consumer spending is rising gradually; the measures we have taken internally should reduce costs and bad debt; the rise in our borrowings has slowed and interest rates are significantly lower. It would be presumptuous of us to pretend that we could forecast the outcome of these varying factors, the biggest unknown being the level of sales likely to be achieved.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts, when published, will be available from the Company Secretary (01-735 7644)

Freemans PLC 139 Clapham Road London SW9 0HR

Charterhouse climbs back from half time

A solid performance from the merchant bank and higher profits from the investments in manufacturing and service industries allowed Charterhouse Group to claw back the half-time slippage and end the year with profits marginally ahead from £22.6m to £22.9m pretax.

Earnings per share have moved up from 7.12p to 9.19p helped by the much lower tax charge: this leaves the dividend, increased by 5 per cent, covered 1.8 times.

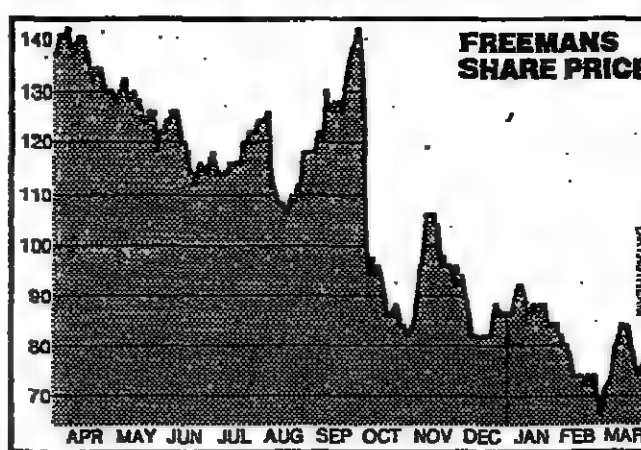
But for a large bad debt provision in the development capital side, profits would have been considerably higher. Profits from development capital fell from £13.3m to £9.7m and would have been roughly unchanged but for the provision.

The corporate finance division at Charterhouse Japhet had a very active year in 1982 and banking and investment management also contributed to a rise in disclosed profits from £6m to £7.5m.

The reduction in the holding in Charterhouse Petroleum from 48.4 to 19.5 per cent means that it can no longer be equity accounted and only dividends will be included in the future. In 1982, Charterhouse Petroleum contributed £3.7m to group profits but Charterhouse is confident at this stage of more than making good the shortfall, the share yield is 8 per cent.

Freemans

Freemans Year to 29.1.83 Pretax profit £25.4m (£13.1m) Stated earnings 6.9p (12.1p) Turnover £315m (£291m) Net final dividend 2.25p (2.25p) Share price 78p, no change Yield 7.8% Dividend payable



FREEMANS SHARE PRICE

Any lingering hopes of a substantial recovery in profits at Freeman's, the mail order house, in 1983-84, have been dashed by the poor start to the year.

City estimates of £10m to £14m for the year, made six months ago, now look wildly over-optimistic. Indeed, Freeman's will do well to turn in profits similar to those reported yesterday.

First half results for this year will be a real shocker - anything from break even to perhaps £1.25m against £3.2m.

Last year suffered from bad debts - up by 30 per cent - though no figure is given. The bad debts are being weeded out but it takes time for the benefits to come through. Costs are high because of the expansion to meet levels of sales which have not been achieved. In cash terms, sales are up by 8 per cent and probably half that in volume terms. But they have been achieved against a background of a 13 per cent expansion in the size of the agency network.

The mail order houses have not benefited from the boost to consumer spending from lower mortgage rates and last year's

removal of hire-purchase restrictions.

The average value of orders has dropped alarmingly even though the number of parcels sent out has remained the same. Worse, more goods are being returned - partly because of Freeman's emphasis on higher margin fashion goods where customers have turned out to be more particular about what they buy.

This concentration on fashion - and a southern bias - has previously allowed Freeman's to buck the trend. This is no longer the case. And the financial position is no longer as strong as it was with gearing creeping up and the time when a rights issue could be made long since passed.

Tullett and Riley International

Tullett and Riley International, the private money broker, is forming close links with Japan's leading money broker Tokyo Forex, before the expected internationalization of the Japanese markets this year. Tokyo Forex is buying

London Trust's 25 per cent stake in Tullett for more than £4m - London Trust bought the stake for £3.07m last June - and through a share exchange and market purchases will eventually own up to 47 per cent of Tullett.

Tullett and Riley, for its part, will receive a 15 per cent stake in Tokyo Forex. The Japanese markets have traditionally operated as largely domestic markets and the expected liberalization has attracted considerable interest. Last year Exco International formed a new joint company in Japan with Nippon Discount and Call Money Co to expand its presence there.

Tullett and Riley is controlled by its directors and after the Tokyo Forex deal they will hold about 53 per cent of the shares.

At present there are no plans for the company, which made pretax profits of £1.6m in 1981, to go public although a quotation is not ruled out at a later stage.

Delta Group

Delta Group Year to 1.1.83 Pretax profit £14.53m (£12.68m) Stated earnings 3.4p (0.9p) Turnover £250m (£281.9m) Net final dividend 1.58p, mgk 3.4p (3.64p) Share price 51p, Yield 9.5% Dividend payable -

Delta, the engineering and electrical group, has cut its dividend to match earnings in order to avoid dipping heavily into reserves. It had to fall back to reserves for extraordinary items, but the dividend is covered on an historic basis. This seems a sensible enough move, but had not been predicted, and so depressed the share price.

But there is good news from the diversification of the last few years.

At the pre-interest and tax level the electrical equipment side showed a rise from £10m to £18.9m, largely as a result of the reorganization in the recovery in operations and the recovery in volume. Cables also sold well.

Hopes in the market are for a good recovery. At this stage of the current financial year forecasts are quite widely spread, with pretax ranging from £18m to £20m. Some increase in the dividend is expected if earnings per share rise to over 5p.

Glynwed Int

Glynwed International Year to 25.12.82 Pretax profit £13.7m (£19.2m) Stated earnings 14.58p (18.53p) Turnover £444m (£368m) Net final dividend 4.36p mgk 7.35p (same) Share price 114p Yield 9.2% Dividend payable 7.7.83

Continuing recession in South Africa and the United States severely depressed Glynwed's overseas trading profit, although the British companies put in a better performance than expected.

At home the building and consumer product side increased trading profits from £7.9m to £8.4m. Steel and engineering, helped by the inclusion of the acquisition of Ducile, rose from £5.4m to £8m at the trading level.

Overseas steel and engineering fell back heavily because of the slump in the United States, with trading profit down to £300,000 from £2.9m.

The company continues to be a yield stock, backed by hopes of recovery, and the rating is not demanding.

New Tyzack chief

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Nigel Humphreys has been appointed managing director of Tyzack & Partners from April 1. Mr Humphreys, who joined the company in 1977, is also a director of Tyzack & Partners (Far East).

Mr Michael Jackman has been made chairman and chief executive of Showersing. Vine Products & Whiteways, the wines, spirits and soft drinks company of Allied-Lyons, of which he is a director.

Mr John Packer, managing director of Reid & Taylor, Langholm, has been elected president of the National Association of Scottish Woollen Manufacturers. He succeeds Mr John Harrison of Johnstons of Elgin, who is to be chairman of the National Wool Textile Export Corporation.

Mr G. John Forrest has been

appointed finance director of Consolidated Safeguards.

Mr David Hart has been appointed managing director of Burgess Power Tools.

Dr Marcello Costi has been named chairman and managing director of Miles Laboratories.

Mr Mark T. S. Edwards and Mr Charles H. Perrin have become partners of Edward Rushton Son and Kenyon.

Mr L. von Hoffman has been made a director of Minocor.

Mr Alick Rankin is to become group managing director of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries on May 1. Mr David Nickson will become chairman on October 1, both of them replacing Mr Peter Balfour, who is retiring.

Midland Bank has met the challenges of 1982: our business plan is to move forward from the firm base we have now established.

Sir Donald Barron, Chairman of Midland Bank plc, comments in his statement to shareholders:

The 1982 profits of the Midland Bank Group, both at the trading and pre-tax levels, show an increase compared with the previous two years, achieved despite the difficulties which banks everywhere faced - in common with industry and commerce generally - as a result of the worldwide recession.

The staff of the Midland Bank Group around the world have met the problems and challenges of 1982 with resilience, skill and loyalty.

The Results

Profit before taxation amounted to £251.4m against £232.2m last year; an increase of 8% achieved despite higher charges for provisions against possible bad debts of £196m compared with £113m in 1981.

There was a significant improvement in the trend of costs following the savings and productivity reviews carried out during 1981 and 1982; we expect this trend to continue.

International Risk

As a major international banking group it is inevitable that we should be faced with a number of situations where the restructuring of payments of both interest and principal indicates the need to make some prudent provision against possible loss, although that loss may be by no means certain.

It is not possible to be in the

international banking business - as your Bank has been, profitably and successfully, for many years - without risk, however careful the assessment.

Commercial Risk

The recession continues to claim victims both among our business and our personal customers. Our policy in dealing with customers who face problems is to assist in every way we can to help to overcome these, by patience and consistency, so long as there appears to us to be a probability of a viable business outcome.

Investments

Our policy of keeping investments under review to ensure that they continue to be used in the most profitable way to support and develop the Group's strategy led to the sale of 40% of our 100% shareholding in Samuel Montagu and our equity interest in Midland and International Banks P.L.C. (MAIBL).

Summary of Group Results

	1982	1981
	£m	£m
Profit before taxation	251.4	232.2
Taxation	81.5	39.3
Attributable profit (after minority interests and extraordinary items)	144.6	123.9
Dividends	43.6	39.6
Retained profit	101.0	84.3
Total assets	47,999	41,014

These transactions yielded £66m and £22.5m respectively.

To complement our growing and profitable operations in Europe we have purchased 69% of Handelsfinanz Bank in Switzerland. We have also taken up, at a cost of £10.2m, a 20% share in the International Commodities Clearing House in London.

Crocker-Longer Term Benefits Our largest single investment outside the U.K. is our holding in Crocker National Corporation in California.

The Crocker investment is part of a long term plan for the international expansion of Midland Bank Group. After working together for just over a year we are clear that the medium and long term benefits of the Crocker alliance will be substantial.

The Objective

Our objective is to ensure that our assets are properly and profitably rewarded, that our costs are firmly controlled and that with our wide geographic spread, we give the best possible service to our many millions of customers - personal and corporate around the world.

The laying of the foundation for our strategy had the effect of creating a profits and earnings plateau during 1980 and 1981; our business plan is to move forward from the firm base we have now established. We are confident that, in the absence of unforeseen factors, the trend will continue to be favourable.

Donald Barron



Midland Bank Group

Sir Donald Barron's full statement and the report for 1982 are available from: The Secretary, Midland Bank plc, Head Office, Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

MOTOR RACING

Watson's charge makes it a great day for the Irish

By John Brunsden

John Watson seems to be engaged on a one-man crusade to revive American interest in Grand Prix racing. Last year he started 17th in the Detroit Grand Prix and drove through the field to score a spectacular victory against the odds.

Two weeks ago, to prove that he hadn't lost his touch, he moved from 16th to second in the Brazilian Grand Prix, before being stopped with engine trouble.

But he reserved his place de resistance for the Long Beach circuit in California on Sunday, when he started in 22nd place on the 26-car grid then took the lead on the 10th lap of the race's 75 laps, and eventually won by 28 seconds over his Marlboro McLaren team colleague Niki Lauda after the longest drive through the field in the history of Formula One racing.

The Ferrari driver Rene Arnoux was the only other finisher to complete the full race distance, but he was more than three-quarters of a minute behind Lauda at the end of a race which for the fourth year running had seen victory go to a car powered by the Ford Cosworth engine.

Patrick Tambay, the early leader, whose Ferrari had been in pole position on the grid, found his main challenge coming from Keke Rosberg and his Williams-Ford, but on the 36th lap the pressure became too intense, the two cars collided and both were eliminated in an unsuccessful overtaking manoeuvre at the Queen's Hairpin, the Ferrari reared up on two wheels before coming to rest across the track, and in trying to avoid it Rosberg's Ferrari's Liger and hit up the rear.

This incident put Rosberg's team partner, Jacques Laffite, into first place, but by this time the two McLarens were already past the middle-of-the-field runners and were closing in for the attack. Lauda had been ahead of Watson earlier on, but on lap 27 they changed places, and Watson's charge to drop back with leg cramp. But by this time they were well clear.

Nelson Piquet, winner of the Brazilian Grand Prix, was never in contention this time and had to leave Ricardo Patrese to continue the team's main challenge. But two laps from the end of a gruelling race Patrese, who had been winning strongly in second place earlier on, eased right up, leaving Laffite, Marc Surer (Arrows-Ford) and Johnny Cecotto (Theodore-Ford), to pick up the remaining points for fourth, fifth and sixth places respectively, one lap behind the winner.

Alan Jones's much-publicised return to the Grand Prix scene in the other Arrows brought a typically early performance from the Australian. Starting in 13th place, he had moved up to tenth at one point, but a brush with one of the concrete walls lining this temporary circuit brought a steering arm, and after two pit stops failed to completely rectify



McLaren crusaders: Watson (right) and Lauda celebrate

the trouble Jones, in some discomfort from his pinned leg, called it a day.

Sixth place by the Venezuelan, Johnny Cecotto, in only his second Grand Prix, was an excellent performance for the young motor-cycle champion turned driver, who had looked competitive from the start of practice. At this early stage in the season, at least, it would appear that the new Formula One regulations have couched one or two of the smaller teams to close the gap on the more heavily financed traditional front-runners.

But undoubtedly, the race between Watson and Lauda, the two McLaren team who, despite miserable days of practice in a vain search for some grip from the track surface, once again found that everything had come right for them once the start's light turned green. Watson's performance, in particular, was an example of a driver, a chassis, an engine and a set of tyres working in perfect harmony. "After that dismal start, I was completely relaxed

as we were," said a jubilant Watson at the end of the race. "I decided to take a gamble and try the tyre compound we had used in Detroit... and it worked."

The Ulsterman's next outing will be in the Race of Champions at Brands Hatch, on April 10, where he will face former title holder Piquet, Rosberg and Jones in a 40-lap race.

RESULTS: 1. J. Watson (McLaren-Ford); 2. N. Lauda (McLaren-Ford); 3. K. Rosberg (Williams-Ford); 4. J. Laffite (Arrows-Ford); 5. M. Surer (Arrows-Ford); 6. J. Cecotto (Theodore-Ford); 7. R. Arnoux (Ferrari-Ford); 8. P. Tambay (Ferrari-Ford); 9. A. Jones (Arrows-Ford); 10. R. Patrese (Williams-Ford); 11. A. Prost (Renault); 12. H. Stuck (Hesketh-Ford); 13. D. Abt (Hesketh-Ford); 14. C. G. S. (Hesketh-Ford); 15. D. Jones (Williams-Ford); 16. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 17. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 18. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 19. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 20. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 21. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 22. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 23. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 24. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 25. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 26. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 27. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 28. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 29. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 30. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 31. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 32. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 33. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 34. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 35. J. S. (Williams-Ford); 36. J. S. 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Pounds pour in for Diesis in the Guineas

By Michael Seely

Diesis was backed to win over £50,000 with William Hill yesterday. The London firm lifted their guarantee a trifle yesterday morning when they offered 4.2 for the 2,000 Guineas against Lord Howard de Walden's impressive winners of the Maiden Park and Dewhurst Stakes. Two intrepid punters in the crowd took the gap like a flash as they booked individual wagers of £10,000 each-way and £5,000 each-way.

One of the few chinks in the bookmaker's otherwise impenetrable armour is that they have to bet according to figures and due to the support for Vincent O'Brien's Danvers, who may make his reappearance at Phoenix Park on Saturday, and also for Gorytus, they have had to lengthen the odds against Diesis.

Historically, this price does not make sense. It is not just under even money against a horse who has won two group one races as a two-year-old being placed in the Guineas. This is what Hibs were suggesting, and it must also not be forgotten so easily Diesis beat Dunbeath, Salieri and the Fort in a gallop before 4-1 against Henry Cecil's All Brothers and Kris and this price should be taken.

The value of the top two-year-old form was maintained at Leicester yesterday when Proclaim landed the odds of 1.5-1 in the Savinus Niche's 3-yr-old prospect in the Burton Overy Stakes. Greville Starkey made every yard of the running on the winner. Below the winner, Able Albert was second, claiming the lead, but lived inside the last furlong. Proclaim galloped on strongly to win by one-and-a-half lengths from Drumalis, with Able Albert a head and a third. Beldale Concordie finished fourth and will be all the better for the race.

Proclaim was allotted \$112lb in the Free Handicap, 9lbs less than Diesis and confirmed his status as Drumalis's brother-in-law. On paper at least Able Albert stole the honours of the race. After winning four minor races in the early part of last season for Peter Easterby the Albion colt, never himself and never not seen out again. "He will now go for the Ladbrooke European Free Handicap at Newmarket on April

Leicester

Draw: No advantage.

2.15 KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,427.77) (15 runners)
 1. **ATTRACTIVE** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **BUTTER BARS** (M. Houghton) R. Houghton 9-0 J. Field 13
 3. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 4. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 5. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 6. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 7. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 8. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 9. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 10. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 11. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 12. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
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 14. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 15. **CLANGOR** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12

2.45 BESCAY STAKES (2-yr-olds; £1,008.51) (7)
 1. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 5. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 6. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 7. **LEADENHALL** (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.15 KILBURN CLAIMING STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,573.1m) (9)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 5. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 7. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 8. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 9. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.45 HOLWELL HANDICAP (3-yr-olds; £1,324.1m) (18)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 12. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 13. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 14. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 15. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 16. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 17. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 18. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

4.15 HARBOROUGH STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,490.1m) (13)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 5. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 6. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 7. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 8. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 9. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 10. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 11. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 12. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 13. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

4.45 BUTLER HANDICAP (3-yr-olds; £1,679.51) (11)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 5. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 6. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 7. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 8. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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Leicester results
 2.15 (15) KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,427.77) (15 runners)
 1. ATTRACTIVE (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. BUTTER BARS (M. Houghton) R. Houghton 9-0 J. Field 13
 3. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 4. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
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 14. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 15. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12

Folkestone

Comp: Heavy.

2.15 (15) KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,427.77) (15 runners)
 1. ATTRACTIVE (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. BUTTER BARS (M. Houghton) R. Houghton 9-0 J. Field 13
 3. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
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RACING

Careless riding ban for Carson

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

With the Sun Grand National less than two weeks away the Alanbrooke Memorial steeplechase will be the one to set the pulse of the harden racing pump at Sandown Park today, when the programme also includes the 100th running of the Royal Artillery Gold Cup. The field for the Alanbrooke includes Scot Lane and Approaching, whose recent form is enthralling, with that of Corbiere and Keeney, two horses whose names are being mentioned increasingly as potential winners of this year's Aintree epic.

But for fluffing the last jump of all Approaching would not have been beaten as far as three lengths by Keeney over today's course and distance on March 12. On the other hand, Scot Lane made no such error when he stormed home five lengths ahead of Corbiere to win the Ritz Club National Hunt steeplechase at Cheltenham recently.

The Cheltenham event is invariably one of the toughest races of the meeting and now that he has struck form I expect to see Scot Lane sustain the improvement that he has clearly made this spring. Today's race should be a stepping stone that will bring him back to Sandown for a crack at the Whitbread Gold Cup on April 16, as the ban starts on April 6.

Carson said afterwards: "This is the first time I have got a six-day suspension for keeping straight. The gap was there, but Alex Mercer on Roskita took out his whip and his mount began to roll. I will not be appealing."

Deys Smith, who trains Mandrake, said: "I feel that the will was not to blame, and I stand by my jockey. The runner-up should not have come up on the inside". It was surprising that the press were so quick to condemn Carson. Immediately after the race the film was despatched by plane to London.

Rouse back with treble
 Brian Rouse, in action for the first time since returning from Hongkong, where he rode four winners, celebrated his comeback by riding the first three winners at Folkestone yesterday. Tom Forrester, Lavers and Janus produced a 2-1-7 treble.

Ayr
 Draw advantage: 5f, 6f, high numbers best
2.0 CASTLEHILL HANDICAP (Apprentices; £1,301.1m) (14 runners)
 1. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 5. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 10. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 11. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 12. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 13. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 14. **1414** HELLSBORN GOLD (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

2.30 AUCHANS STAKES (maiden; £890.1m) (13)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 13. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.0 COODHAM HANDICAP (1.615m; 1m 5f) (9)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 9. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.30 SANDOWN PARK NH
 Total double 3.30, 4.35, Treble 3.0, 4.0, 5.05
2.30 DOWN CONDITIONAL JOCKEY CHASE (Selling; £1,301.1m) (15 runners)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 14. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 15. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.00 BRITISH AEROSPACE RAPID CHASE (novice; £2,430.2m) (6 runners) (7)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 4. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 6. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

3.30 CLERICAL, MEDICAL RIG OF THE LINE CHASE (handicap; £2,401.2m) (15 runners) (7)
 1. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 3. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
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 7. **334028** CUBIC ZODIAC (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14

Sandown Park selections
 By Michael Phillips
 2.30 Truconcho, 3.00 Leader Blue, 3.30 Classified, 4.00 Furry Spirit, 4.30 Scot Lane, 5.05 Dancing Brigs.

Ayr
 2.0 (2) KEYTHORPE STAKES (3-yr-olds; £1,427.77) (15 runners)
 1. ATTRACTIVE (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 Sarah Wilkinson 7 14
 2. BUTTER BARS (M. Houghton) R. Houghton 9-0 J. Field 13
 3. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
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 5. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Nicheville 9-0 W. Jones 12
 6. CLANGOR (M. Houghton) M. Niche

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Northamptonshire

Secretary's

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(Outer Suburbs)

Solicitors require assistant solicitor admitted about two years. Emphasis on conveyancing with some probate but there would be opportunity for some criminal work.

CV's to Box 0458 H The Times

THE LAW SOCIETY

Legal Aid-Solicitors

Newcastle and Cambridge

£8,096 - £15,507

Applications are invited from solicitors for vacancies in the Newcastle and Cambridge Legal Aid Offices.

Appointments will be made within the above salary range, depending on age and experience, which should cover all types of matrimonial and general litigation.

The work requires solicitors with a level-headed approach to assessing the merits and likely benefits of prospective legal actions, and an eye for detail, who can work in a quick orderly way and exercise sound judgment.

The terms of service include a contributory superannuation scheme with dependants provision, regular increments and four weeks annual leave. Removal expenses are not payable on first appointment and applicants from outside the area are therefore asked to confirm that they envisage no problem in moving to within commuting distance of the office.

Applicants who would like additional information are invited to telephone the Personnel Manager on 01-242 1222.

Write in confidence by the 8th April, 1983, giving full details of education, experience, employment, present salary and date available to: Personnel Manager, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL.



ADMIRALTY CLAIMS

CLAIMS EXECUTIVE REQUIRED

By LEADING P & I CLUB

The successful candidate with legal and/or seafaring experience will be required to handle collision, fixed and floating objects and cargo claims. The starting salary by negotiation according to age experience and qualifications.

Please apply with CV to PO Box 0727 H at the Times.

LITIGATION

Expanding Winchester based practice (7 partners) with heavy contentious workload urgently requires a bright and energetic young solicitor to join hard pressed but friendly litigation team.

The work will be challenging. Salary and prospects excellent.

Apply in writing with C.V. and details of current salary to

Peter Lloyd, Dutton Gregory and Williams,

23 St. Peter Street, Winchester, Hampshire.

HAMPSHIRE

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

PROPERTY LAWYER

A solicitor or barrister is required by the major trade association/employers' organisation of the agricultural and horticultural industries. Its busy legal department handles the whole range of English and EEC law affecting these industries and the post offers a variety of work particularly in land law. Ability is more important than experience. The work is demanding and interesting for practical persons with academic ability able to work independently or as members of a team. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Further particulars from Director of Staff Relations, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7JL.

LAW REVISION

A private company, specialising in the printing of Law Revisions for overseas territories, wishes to meet experts in this field. There are several projects in hand which will require the services of people accustomed to dealing with Attorneys General, Ministries, Law Commissioners and Legal and Parliamentary Draftsmen.

If you have experience of printing it would be an advantage.

Please write enclosing a C.V. and give details of any Law Revisions and Drafting experience to:

Box 0457 H The Times

ROWE & MAW

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Rowe & Maw require a newly or recently admitted Solicitor to join the team in their Litigation Department dealing with a wide range of building and civil engineering problems for a variety of clients.

The successful candidate will have a good academic record and a positive approach to his or her work. Previous experience in this field is desirable, but not essential.

Applications with full Curriculum Vitae should be made to:-

Mr A. J. M. Blackler,

Rowe & Maw,

15 Devereux Court, Essex Street,

London WC2R 3JX.

TAX PLANNER required by a major City law firm. Excellent salary and benefits. Early interview. Salary negotiable. 09904 2555.

COMMERCIAL/COMPANY secretarial opportunity for a young ambitious person with excellent academic qualifications. Excellent salary and benefits. Early interview. Salary negotiable. 01-242 1222.

LITIGATION SECRETARIES One or two experienced secretaries required to assist in the preparation of legal documents. Excellent salary and benefits. Early interview. Salary negotiable. 01-242 1222.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL SOLICITOR £8,000 - £10,000 p.a. + benefits. Excellent opportunity for a newly qualified solicitor with commercial experience. Early interview. Salary negotiable. 01-242 1222.

Your mind must be renewed... so that you can be a part of the new world that has been created in God's word.
Ephesians 4, 23, 24 (J.B.)

BIRTHS

ASHFORD - On March 22nd, at St. Thomas's Hospital, to Philip and Anne, a daughter.
ASHFORD - On March 22nd, at Queen Charlotte's, to Anne and Peter, a son.
BUTLER - On March 22nd, 1983 (Pain Relief), to Brian and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

DALRYMPLE - On March 22nd, at the West London Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

ELDRIDGE - On March 27, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

FERGUSON - On March 22nd, 1983, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

GRAMS - On March 22nd, 1983, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

GREEN - On March 22nd, 1983, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

KEVIN - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

MOORE - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

NEED HERBERT - On March 27th, 1983, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

SIDNEY - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

SWIFT - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

TURNBULL - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

WILLIAMS - On March 22nd, at the Royal National Maternity Hospital, to John and Margaret, a son, Alexander (Liam).

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MEMORIAL SERVICES

BRENTFORD - A service of remembrance for the late Mr. William Brentford, who died on March 22nd, 1983, will be held at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Brentford, on Tuesday, March 29th, at 11.30 a.m.

IN MEMORIAM (WAR)
AGAZIAN - Mr. John Agazian, who died on March 22nd, 1983, at the age of 78, is remembered with affection by his family.

IN MEMORIAM
BARRIE-BROWN - In loving memory of Mr. Barrie Brown, who died on March 22nd, 1983, at the age of 78.

WANTED
A person named [Name] is wanted for [Reason].

EXHIBITION - A collection of [Description] will be on display at [Location] from [Date] to [Date].

GENTLEMAN - A gentleman is seeking a [Description] for [Purpose].

WIMBORNE - A [Description] is available for [Purpose].

HOUSE - A [Description] is available for [Purpose].

ANNOUNCEMENTS
[Various announcements regarding local events and services.]

UNUSUAL HOLIDAY HOME
A unique holiday home is available for [Purpose].

WILL EXCHANGE - A [Description] is available for [Purpose].

DEATHS
[List of recent deaths and funeral services.]

MARRIAGES
[List of recent marriages.]

GOLDEN WEDDING
[Announcement of a golden wedding celebration.]

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

PAXOS, ITHACA & CEPHALONIA
Have you booked your holiday yet? These islands offer a perfect escape.

APRIL SKIING FROM £159
Val d'Arenas, Val d'Isère and other ski resorts.

CLUB MARK WARNER
Tel: 01-938 1851 (24 hrs).

OLYMPIC BUS
3 weeks holiday in Greece.

APRIL SUPER BARGAINS
Rhodes 30.3.83, 12.12.83.

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GENTLEMAN - A gentleman is seeking a [Description] for [Purpose].

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
[List of holiday and villa options.]

RENTALS
[List of rental properties.]

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS
[List of club events and announcements.]

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
[List of musical instruments for sale or hire.]

ATTENTION ALL BUSINESSMEN
[Advertisement for business services.]

FLAT SHARING
[List of flat sharing opportunities.]

ST. PAUL'S EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
[Advertisement for St. Paul's Employment Agency.]

TEMP BOOKINGS GALORE
[Advertisement for temporary bookings.]

OFFICE MANAGER
[Advertisement for an office manager position.]

LEGAL
[Advertisement for legal services.]

ENTERTAINMENTS
[List of entertainment events.]

OPERA & BALLET
[List of opera and ballet performances.]

GLANDININGS
[Advertisement for Glandinings.]

WEDDING
[Advertisement for wedding services.]

CRUISING
[Advertisement for cruising.]

WANTED
[List of wanted notices.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS
[List of various announcements.]

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANCER
[Advertisement for the campaign against cancer.]

MEMORIAL SERVICES
[List of memorial services.]

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

Coastal AM News headlines, weather and traffic details. Breakfast News with Susan Scott and Frank Bough. Includes News at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. Regional news at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15. Sport at 8.45, 7.15, 8.15. The Wombles (7.30). Jackanory (8.45). Dog Cartoons (9.00). Why Don't You...? (9.30). School holiday ideas from Belfast (10.25). Play Chase (10.35). The Blue Danube. Film: Wonderful Life (1946). Opening a short film season by the Peter Pan pop, Cliff Richard, the Shadows and the Young Ones are the young ones hired by a film crew in the Canary Islands. weather with Richard Whitmore and Heather Payton. 12.57 Financial Report and news headlines (repeated). People Hill at One Further. Intermittently from the foyer 1.45. Playhouse. Film: Bearheart of the Northwest (1964). He's a legendary dog that saves the daughter of a pioneer family in the early days of the Northwest. 6.30. Play School (see BBC2, 11am). 4.20 The Top Hat Rabbats. Casualty (4.25). Thinking Back with Johnny Ball. 4.40 Scooby Doo, Where Are You? (7.30). 6. John Craven's Newsworld. 5.10 The Baker Street Boys: The Case of The Captive Calvary. A two-part mystery for Sherlock Holmes's sidekicks begins with a murder at a music hall. 6. News, weather. 7. South East at Six. 7. Nationwide includes the final of the TSB Rock School Competition. 8. Ice Skating: Our Indisputable World. Ice dance champions Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean return in triumph to headline a gala with fellow world medalists at Richmond Ice rink. 9. Great Little Railways: The Good and the Quick. The last of these travelogues by narrow-gauge train follows the 280 miles of switchbacks and loops on the notorious Guayaquil to Quito line in variegated Ecuador. 10. Tears Before Bedtime. New comedy series by Richard Waring has Geraldine McEwan and Francis Matthews as a middle-aged couple who find a novel solution to family friction. They run away from home. 11. News, weather. 12. Play For Today: Atlantis. Cautionary caustic comedy by Peter Ieron looks suspiciously intended to launch a series. But first its two hampered heroes must launch the rusty old colander they've inherited before sold by old folk, Frank Middlemass, Colin Jackson and Bruce Forsyth play the innocents who answer "the call of the cut" and emerge as the Black Country answer to Laurel and Hardy after a succession of disasters as they try to make their dream beach country. But despite their endearing playing, and some well-timed sight gags, the play slowly peters, and my fear is that an eventual series might merely end up as "another fine mess". 13. People and Power. To this series Francis Pym, the foreign secretary, on the World's economic problems, Delwyn Williams, MP, on the politics of the environment and reporter James Naughton on why the political parties do like to be beside the seaside. 23. News headlines. 25. Bathroom Champions: Finalists of the UK Bathroom Championships compete. 10. Weather and close-down.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak with Gavin Scott, followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Ford and Angela Ripston. Includes News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00. Pop slot at 8.50. Guest celebrity at 8.50. Agony aunts at 8.50. Keep it at 9.05. Close-down at 8.15.

ITV LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street. 10.30 Science International. Michael Bentine's cast of scientists research. 10.35 The Greatest Race. Highlights from last year's record-breaking 27,000-mile Whitbread Round-the-World Yacht Race. 11.30 Film Fun. 12.00 Cockleshell Bay. For toddlers. 12.10 Once Upon a Time. 12.30 The Builders. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Crown Court. A new three-day trial involves a firm of solicitors accused of conspiracy to defraud a trust fund. 2.00 A Plus at Easter. Daily crosswords on air begin with Della Smith, James Fox and Brian Greenaway. 2.30 Love in a Cold Climate. Jean-Pierre Cassel joins the cast. 3.30 One of the Boys. Grandad Mickey Rooney hits the jackpot on a bank's cash dispenser. 4.00 Cockleshell Bay. Same-day repeat of puppet programme. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Cartoon Comedy. The Incredible Detective. 4.45 CB TV - Channel 14. Magazine for teenagers. 5.15 The Grumbleweeds Radio Show. An intriguing crossover for the northern comedy group not only from radio but they have been enjoying a consistently funny series but from BBC to ITV. This showcase is by way of a pilot. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.25 Help! An Shearer reports a school comprehensive school's pioneering success in integrating handicapped children. 6.35 Crossroads. Sally Banks discovers a secret. 7.00 Reporting London. Home produced drama and, in a lighter vein, personalised "telegrams" delivered in fancy dress. 7.35 Film: Birds of Prey (1972). Chase movie with a difference. Most of the action takes place above the ground. David Janssen plays an airborne traffic reporter who spots an armoured car hold-up from his helicopter. As he pursues the car in that chopper, he flashes back to his wartime experiences as a fighter pilot. 9.00 Studio. Sage about an Elysian recording studio has as its central character Art Mandrake, a dynamic rock musician supposedly the poet of a generation. Yet in this second episode by Bob Mason, the sum of Art's artistry is "Sorry fellers, I can't cope with this. I'm going through some heavy changes". What this in fact means is that Art is trying to kick his addiction to heroin, apparently by becoming an alcoholic instead. Michael Gough as Art makes the most of a sad job in a (TV) studio-bound fantasy. 10.00 News at Ten, then Thames News Headlines. 10.30 The Women at Number 10. Mrs Thatcher talks to Sir Laurence van der Post (see Choice). 11.30 Manna. This episode of the Mike Connors crime series has an appearance by Rona Barrett, the Hollywood gossip queen. 12.20 In His Image? Frances Hensley discusses loneliness. 12.30 Close-down.



Mrs Thatcher: The Woman at No 10 (ITV, 10.30pm)

It may be just a shop to you, but to some of its staff, Selfridges is for all the world a stage. And the players that strut upon its 21,000 acres of floor space are eagerly thrust into the spotlight by John Pimm in JUST ANOTHER DAY (BBC2, 9.30pm). There's Stan the goods lift man. "You don't see much daylight, do you?" asks Pimm. "Every time I open the door, I expect to be handed bread and water". Stan replies. And Norman the postman. He was born Maurice, but hasn't been himself since seeing Norman Wisdom in "Trouble in Store" in 1953, while in the beauty salon, Pimm finds a masseuse named Miss Hooker (whose real name is Miss Hustler). Then stage names are all part of the fantasy, as the majestic Miss Brogan (C. C. Connolly) explains: "The wonderful thing about this department is that we're more like

CHOICE

show business than any other part of the store. The wonderful thing about Mr Pimm is that he acts as a fairy godfather who waves his magic wand and allows his subjects to shine for 30 seconds of stardom.

● THE WOMAN AT NUMBER 10 (ITV, 10.30pm). Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, is, of course, far too astute to invite a critic into her cabinet room, let alone her private study. Sir Laurence van der Post is, however, a dear friend, and it would be naive to expect anything other than the convoluted conversation that results from their meeting before Michael Giff's cameras. But the chance to peer behind the most famous front door, as it always, irresistible, and rapid here by a guided tour of the seat of power

SHEPHERD'S TALE

(Radio 4, 7.50pm) The wind whistles and whips across the Cornish fells where Tommy Purdum farms his sheep. Four hundred years ago, shepherd farmer Thomas Tusser, of Suffolk, published his 500 Points of Good Husbandry (in verse) and Eric Robson's atmospheric record of the Lakeland Tommy's rural reminiscences and rumination underlines the strong tradition that links the two men, despite the passage of years and changing social values.

Today in Parliament

11.30 News. 12.15 Shipping Forecast. Inshore Forecast. 12.30 VHF except: 6.25am-6.30 Weather. Forecast. 1.55pm-2.00 Listening Round. 5.50-5.55 PM. 11.00 Study on 4: What Are We Doing to the Children? 11.30-11.40 Open University. 11.30 The Harpichord in the Continuo. 11.50 Open Forum.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. Beethoven. Hindemith. Dostoevsky. records. 8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert (continued). Auber. Haydn. Walton records. 9.00 News. 9.05 Treasuries Composer Sketches; records. 10.00 News and Mozart Concert. Music for Holy Week BBC singers. Lotti. Bruckner. Foulenc. Vaughan Williams. 11.35 Beethoven: Piano recital. 12.30 Midday Concert. BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. Rodrigo. 1.00 News. 1.05 Concert part 2. Elgar. 2.00 Music Weekly. 2.50 Brahms Chamber Music. 3.00 British and Domestic Concert. 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. 5.30 Bach: Cello Suites. 7.00 News. 7.05 Accusations of ballet, music by Rameau (sung in French). 8.00 Stockhausen: Gruppen. 8.30 Cross Purposes with Frederic Rzewski. 8.50 BBC Philharmonic Orchestra: Beethoven, Mozart, Strauss.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore. 7.30 Terry Wogan. 10.00 Jimmy Young. 12.00 Music while you work. 12.30 Youth Chatters. Including 2.50 Sports Desk. 12.50 Stuart. Including 3.50 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton including 4.2. 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 Steve Jones including 6.45 Sports Desk. 6.50 Results (see only) 7.30 Hubert Gregg says I Call It. 8.30 Folk on 2. 9.30 VHS and 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Law Game. 10.30 Brian Matthew (from midnight). 10.30 Patrick Lunt. Orchestra. 2.00 Patrick Lunt.

Radio 1

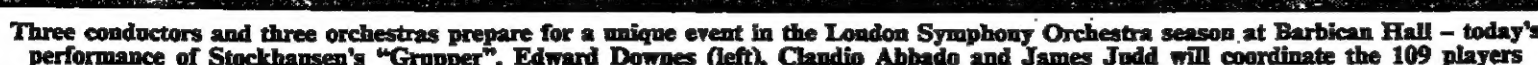
5.00 Mike Smith. 7.00 Mike Read. 8.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. including 5.00 Newsweek. 2.00 Steve Wright. 3.30 Jonnie Levy. including 5.30 Newsweek. 7.00 Frontline. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel. 12.00 Close. VHF RADIO 1 and 2.50am with Radio 2. 10.00am with Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am with Radio 2.

World Service

6.00 Newsweek. 7.00 World News. 7.28 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 The First World War. 7.45 News. 8.00 World News. 8.05 BBC World Service. 8.15 The World News. 8.20 News. 8.25 The World News. 8.30 News. 8.35 The World News. 8.40 News. 8.45 The World News. 8.50 News. 8.55 The World News. 9.00 News. 9.05 The World News. 9.10 News. 9.15 The World News. 9.20 News. 9.25 The World News. 9.30 News. 9.35 The World News. 9.40 News. 9.45 The World News. 9.50 News. 9.55 The World News. 10.00 News. 10.05 The World News. 10.10 News. 10.15 The World News. 10.20 News. 10.25 The World News. 10.30 News. 10.35 The World News. 10.40 News. 10.45 The World News. 10.50 News. 10.55 The World News. 11.00 News. 11.05 The World News. 11.10 News. 11.15 The World News. 11.20 News. 11.25 The World News. 11.30 News. 11.35 The World News. 11.40 News. 11.45 The World News. 11.50 News. 11.55 The World News. 12.00 News. 12.05 The World News. 12.10 News. 12.15 The World News. 12.20 News. 12.25 The World News. 12.30 News. 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The trial will take place shortly before proceedings open against Klaus Barbie, also from Bad Godesberg. The Gestapo chief of Lyons, now under arrest in France. One of those who have brought the case in Germany is the French lawyer, M Serge Klarsfeld, who revealed Barbie's presence in Bolivia.

According to some of the welfare organizations, the refugees were shocked to find that the immigration rules had changed on March 10.



Hundreds of people thronged around the Rolls-Royce as the Prince and Princess prepared

The 486 guests dined on a menu of lobster, beef fillet and strawberries. Then Prince Charles took his wife on to the parquet floor to lead the dancing. His vigorous approach left some guests surprised as he entered into the informal spirit of Australia.

Another photograph page 6